



**gymnase  
de  
nyon**

NOTE :

**NOM :** \_\_\_\_\_ **Prénom :** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXAMENS D'ADMISSION AUX GYMNASSES VAUDOIS  
SESSION 2020**

ÉCOLE DE MATURITÉ – examen blanc

ANNÉE : 1<sup>RE</sup> ANNÉE  
BRANCHE : ANGLAIS  
SIGLE : EXAD-1M-ANG-02  
EXAMEN : ÉCRIT

**Durée** : 3 heures

**Matériel autorisé** : néant.

**Consignes** :

- Le candidat rédige les réponses à l'encre de façon soignée.
- Les feuilles de brouillon sont remises avec l'épreuve.
- Les feuilles doivent rester agrafées.

**1. Partie technique :** \_\_\_\_\_ / **30 pts**

**2. Partie compréhension :** \_\_\_\_\_ / **30 pts**

**3. Partie expression :** \_\_\_\_\_ / **24 pts**

**Pondération :** **partie technique 20%, partie compréhension 40%,  
partie expression 40% de la note finale**

**1. PARTIE TECHNIQUE (20%)**

total points : ..... / 30 pts

**1.1 Verb Tenses and Verb Forms**

Read the following article and circle the correct verb tense or form for each gap from the choice given at the end of the text. Make sure your choice is indicated clearly.

***A Country in Flames: Australia Bush Fires in Pictures***

Australia has been burning since September and an end to the catastrophic destruction (1) to be in sight. Officials (2) the fires could take months to extinguish. The wildfires (3) more than two dozen lives and destroyed over 2,000 homes, according to *The Associated Press*.

Wildlife conservation group WWF in Australia now (4) that 1.25 billion animals (5). Yesterday, the authorities (6) that as much as 15.6 million acres of land had burned. That's greater than twice the size of the US state of Maryland. At the moment, New South Wales (7) hit the hardest with about 130 fires still burning across the state.

For the first time in Australian history, thousands of army, navy and air force reservists (8) against the fires. U.S. officials say that they (9) 100 firefighters to the country next week, joining the 159 U.S. firefighters already there.

The fires (10) several months ago, which is earlier than is typical for Australia's annual wildfire season as the country suffers through its hottest and driest year on record.

(adapted from *CNBC*, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020)

- |                          |                         |                      |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. a. did not appear     | b. is not appearing     | c. does not appear   |
| 2. a. believed           | b. believe              | c. have believed     |
| 3. a. will already claim | b. have already claimed | c. already claim     |
| 4. a. will also estimate | b. also estimates       | c. also estimated    |
| 5. a. already die        | b. were already dying   | c. have already died |
| 6. a. said               | b. have said            | c. say               |
| 7. a. is getting         | b. got                  | c. will get          |
| 8. a. fought             | b. are fighting         | c. fought            |
| 9. a. have sent          | b. send                 | c. will send         |
| 10. a. have started      | b. started              | c. were starting     |

..... / 10 pts

## 1.2 Other Grammatical and Vocabulary Features

Read the following article and circle the correct word or expression from the choice given at the end of the text to fill the gaps. Make sure your choice is indicated clearly.

### ***Digital Habits across Generations***

Today's grandparents are joining (1) grandchildren on social media, but the different generations' online habits (2) be more different. The over-55s are joining Facebook in (3) numbers, meaning that they will soon be the site's second biggest user group, with 3.5 million users aged 55–64 and 2.9 million over-65s. Sheila, aged 59, says, 'I joined (4) what my grandchildren are doing, as my daughter posts videos and photos of them. It's a much better way to see what they're doing (5) waiting for letters and photos in the post.'

Ironically, Sheila's grandchildren are less likely to use Facebook (6). Children under 17 are leaving the site – only 2.2 million users are under 17 – but they're not going far from their smartphones. Chloe, aged 15, even sleeps with (7) phone. 'It's my alarm clock so I have to,' she says. 'I look at it before I go to sleep and as soon (8) I wake up.' Unlike her grandmother's generation, Chloe's age group is spending so (9) time on their phones at home that they are missing out on spending time with their friends in real life. Sheila, on the other (10), has made contact with old school friends she hasn't heard from in forty years. 'We use Facebook to arrange to meet all over the country,' she says. 'It's changed my social life.'

Teenagers (11) have their parents to thank for their smartphone and social media addiction (12) their parents were the (13) adopters of the smartphone. Peter, 38 and father of two teenagers, reports that he used to be (14) his phone or laptop constantly. 'I was always connected and I felt like I was always working,' he says. 'How could I tell my children to get off their phones if I was always in front of a screen myself?' (15), in the evenings and at weekends, he takes his SIM card out of his smartphone and puts it into (16) old-style mobile phone that (17) only make calls and send text messages. 'I'm not completely cut off from the world in case of emergencies, (18) the important thing is I'm setting a (19) example to my kids and spending more quality time with them.' Is it only a matter of time (20) the generation above and below Peter catches up with the new trend for a less digital life?

(adapted from a text from the *British Council* website, n.d.)

- |                |              |            |
|----------------|--------------|------------|
| 1. a. them     | b. their     | c. his     |
| 2. a. couldn't | b. shouldn't | c. mustn't |

- |                  |               |               |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 3. a. growing    | b. grew       | c. grown      |
| 4. a. for see    | b. for seeing | c. to see     |
| 5. a. than       | b. as         | c. then       |
| 6. a. themselves | b. themselves | c. themself   |
| 7. a. his        | b. their      | c. her        |
| 8. a. than       | b. then       | c. as         |
| 9. a. many       | b. much       | c. lot of     |
| 10. a. side      | b. hand       | c. part       |
| 11. a. must      | b. might      | c. should     |
| 12. a. when      | b. why        | c. because    |
| 13. a. earliest  | b. more early | c. most early |
| 14. a. on        | b. at         | c. of         |
| 15. a. Because   | b. So         | c. While      |
| 16. a. a         | b. an         | c. –          |
| 17. a. can       | b. must       | c. may        |
| 18. a. because   | b. while      | c. but        |
| 19. a. best      | b. better     | c. more good  |
| 20. a. until     | b. if         | c. why        |

.... / 20 pts

**2. PARTIE COMPREHENSION (40%)**

total points : ..... / 30 pts

**2.1 Text 1**

*Read the following article and circle the correct answer for each question from the choice given at the end of the text. Only **one** answer is correct; make sure it is indicated clearly. The questions follow the order of the text, except question 9.*

***The Meaning of a Smile***

It's one of the most fundamental things that humans do. Smile. Very young babies can manage it spontaneously, as a reflex, and this is sometimes misinterpreted by new parents as a reaction to their presence, even if it's not until six to eight weeks of age that babies smile in a social way. That new parents optimistically interpret the first reflex smiles reflects the complexity of smiling: there is the physical act and then the interpretation society gives to it – the smile and what the smile means.

On a physical level, a smile is clear enough. There are 17 pairs of muscles controlling expression in the human face, plus a ring that goes around the mouth. When the brain decides to smile, a message is sent out over the sixth and seventh cranial nerves. These divide into two across each side of the face from the eyebrows to the chin, connecting to a combination of muscles controlling the lips, nose, eyes and forehead.

Culturally, smiling echoes across human history, from the smiling Greek kouros sculptures of 2,500 years ago right up to emojis. Emojis with smiling faces are by far the most predominant in online messages. The most popular emoji of all – the face with tears of joy – was chosen as the 2015 Word of the Year by *Oxford Dictionaries*. Just as this emoji expresses more than simple happiness – tears adding the ironic twist – smiles themselves communicate so much more, too.

There are various illnesses that can stop us from smiling. A common one is facial paralysis caused by a stroke which damages the brain. Rarer is Moebius syndrome, a congenital facial paralysis caused by missing nerves, where you can't smile, frown<sup>1</sup> or move your eyes from side to side. "You essentially have a mask on your face," says Roland Bienvenu, 67, who has Moebius syndrome. Without being able to smile, others "can get an incorrect impression of you", he says. "They question your intellectual ability, think maybe he's got some intellectual disability since he's got this empty look on his face."

Scientists have shown that smiles are far easier to recognise than other expressions. What they don't know is why. "We can do really well recognising smiles," says Aleix Martinez, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Ohio State University. "I can show you an image for just 10 milliseconds and you can tell me it's a smile. It does not work with any other expression." Fear takes an exposure time of 250 milliseconds to recognise – "which makes absolutely no sense, evolutionarily speaking", Martinez says. "Recognising fear is fundamental to survival, while a smile... But that's how we are wired<sup>2</sup>."

Studies have shown that smiling faces are judged as more familiar than neutral ones. Even if scientists have been studying smiles for about 150 years, they are still at the stage of trying to categorise types of smiles among the millions of possible facial expressions. "One of the fundamental questions in the scientific literature right now is, how many facial expressions do we actually produce?" says Martinez. "Nobody knows."

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<sup>1</sup> *to frown* = to move, to wrinkle your forehead in concern or anger

<sup>2</sup> *wired* = designed, made

Scientists such as Martinez theorise that smiles – as well as frowns and other facial expressions – are leftovers of humanity's distant pre-linguistic heritage. Human language started developing as far back as 100,000 years ago, but our expressions reach back further still, even to before our origins as human beings. "Before we could communicate verbally, we had to communicate with our faces," Martinez says. "Which brings us to a very interesting, very fundamental question in science: where does language come from?" One of the hypotheses is that it evolved through the facial expression of emotion, he says. Then a grammar of facial expressions developed, and over time that evolved into what we call language. So when we wonder how something as complex as language evolved from nothingness, the answer is it almost certainly started with a smile. (adapted from *The Guardian*, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018)

### Multiple Choice

1. Parents are usually very excited when their new baby smiles for the first time because
  - a. it is the baby's first reaction to the parents' presence.
  - b. they do not know that it is only a reflex.
  - c. it shows that the baby is happy.
2. A smile is produced by
  - a. the interaction of various parts of the body.
  - b. 17 pairs of muscles controlling facial expression.
  - c. the brain.
3. The emoji representing a face with tears of joy
  - a. comes from Greece.
  - b. was the most popular emoji in 2015.
  - c. reflects the various meanings of a smile.
4. Moebius syndrome
  - a. affects a majority of people who cannot smile.
  - b. often leads people to think the person is stupid.
  - c. only affects people's ability to smile.
5. The fact that we recognize a smile faster than the expression of fear
  - a. is linked to our evolution.
  - b. has no scientific explanation yet.
  - c. shows that we are social beings.

6. About 150 years of research on smiles have shown that
- they can easily be distinguished from other facial expressions.
  - categorizing facial expressions is a very complex task.
  - we cannot remember neutral faces.
7. Smiles may
- be older than the human race.
  - be about 100,000 years old.
  - have developed out of frowns.
8. Smiles might be at the origin of
- grammar.
  - language.
  - emotions.
9. Now choose the sentence that best summarizes the text.
- A smile can lie.
  - Your smile reveals who you are.
  - Revealing the complexity of a smile.

.... /9 pts

## 2.2 Text 2

Read the following article and complete the two exercises that follow it according to the instructions.

### ***Common Childhood Illness May Have Killed off Neanderthals***

***Ear infections to blame for extinction of archaic humans, scientists say*** - The mystery of why Neanderthals died out may have been solved, and rather than some sort of **cataclysmic** event, scientists now say it could have been something as simple as a common childhood illness.

- A new study has suggested that ear infections were responsible for their extinction. Today they can be simply treated with modern medicines like antibiotics, but the Neanderthals **contracted** many complications from ear infections, including respiratory infections, hearing loss and pneumonia.

- The study published in *The Anatomical Record*, found that the ears of Neanderthals were comparable to those of human children and did not change with age, as children's do. "It may sound **far-fetched**, but when we, for the first time, reconstructed the Eustachian tubes<sup>1</sup> of Neanderthals, we discovered that they are remarkably similar to those of human infants," said

<sup>1</sup> *Eustachian tubes* = tubes situated in the ear

- one of the authors, Professor Samuel Marquez of the Downstate Health Sciences University in New York. "Middle ear infections are nearly omnipresent among infants because the flat angle of an infant's Eustachian tube **is prone to retain** the bacteria that cause these infections – the same flat angle we found in Neanderthals."
- 15 Generally considered to have been a distinct human species, Neanderthals once occupied a region **stretching** from Siberia in the east to Iberia in the west, and from Britain in the north to Iraq in the south. They first appeared around 450,000 years ago and then died out as humans started **to settle in** Eurasia 60,000 years ago.
- 20 While the shape of a human child's ear begins to change around the age of five, meaning that it is less probable that they contract ear infections, this did not happen with Neanderthals, the study found. "It's not just **the threat of** dying of an infection," Dr Marquez said. "If you are constantly ill, you would not be as fit and effective in competing with your *Homo sapien* cousins for food and other resources." He added: "In a world of survival of the fittest, it is no wonder
- 25 that modern man won over the Neanderthal."

(adapted from *The Independent*, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020)

### Exercise 1: Vocabulary

Circle the correct synonym for the following words and expressions in the context of the article. One **one** answer is correct. Make sure you indicate it clearly.

1. **to blame for** (l.1)
 

a. to thank for	b. to excuse for	c. to be accused of
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2. **cataclysmic** (l.2)
 

a. advantageous	b. disastrous	c. cyclical
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3. **contracted** (l.5)
 

a. collected	b. caught	c. resisted
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4. **far-fetched** (l.10)
 

a. distant	b. improbable	c. reasonable
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5. **is prone to retain** (l.14)
 

a. can easily retain	b. has difficulty retaining	c. cannot retain
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6. **stretching** (l.17)
 

a. changing	b. expanding	c. restricting
-------------	--------------	----------------
7. **to settle in** (l.19)
 

a. to live in	b. to leave	c. to cross
---------------	-------------	-------------
8. **the threat of** (l.22)
 

a. the certainty of	b. the hope of	c. the menace of
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... / 8 pts



**Exercise 2: True or false**

*Are the statements below true or false? Circle the correct option and indicate the line number(s) from the text which support(s) your answer. To get the point, both T/F and the line numbers need to be correct. There are no half-points. The statements follow the order of the text.*

1. We now know for sure that ear infections are responsible for the dying out of the Neanderthals.

True                      False                      Line(s) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Ear infections are still very dangerous today.

True                      False                      Line(s) \_\_\_\_\_

3. The hearing system of the Neanderthals was similar to that of today's children.

True                      False                      Line(s) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Ear infections are caused by the accumulation of bacteria in parts of the ear tube.

True                      False                      Line(s) \_\_\_\_\_

5. The Neanderthals lived for approximately 450,000 years.

True                      False                      Line(s) \_\_\_\_\_

6. The ear of the Neanderthal kept its initial form.

True                      False                      Line(s) \_\_\_\_\_

7. It came as a surprise that the Neanderthals did not triumph over the humans.

True                      False                      Line(s) \_\_\_\_\_

.... / 7 pts

**2.3 Text 3**

*Read the article and decide which sentence given at the end of the text fills which gap. Write its letter next to the corresponding number.*

***Declining Biodiversity***

A green sea turtle glides through the Great Barrier Reef off the northeastern coast of Australia. Millions of species live in and around coral reef ecosystems, (1). Scientists call this mix of different species *biodiversity*.

An environment works well with a wide variety of species. Here's an example: Green sea turtles love to eat sea grass — (2). Without tiger sharks, sea turtles would eat all the best sea grass, (3). If one species — turtle, shark, or sea grass — disappears, (4). Losing just one species can damage many others.

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Animals depend on each other to survive in a coral reef ecosystem. There are possibly billions of different species of plants, animals, bacteria, and other living things throughout the world — (5).

Many of these known and unknown species have uncertain futures though. Climate change, pollution, illegal hunting, and habitat destruction change (6), known as *declining biodiversity*.

(adapted from *National Geographic Kids*, n.d.)

- A. but we've only documented about two million of them
- B. destroying that habitat for all the other animals that depend on it
- C. other plants and animals that are connected to that species could go extinct too
- D. but they can't hang out in one spot for too long because tiger sharks patrol the area, hunting for sea turtles
- E. the number of plant and animal species that live in a habitat
- F. where these plants and animals need each other for survival

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(5) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(6) \_\_\_\_\_

.... / 6 pts



