

Anglais

Probatoire

Série A-B-C-D

Session de 2000

Section I: Grammar

10 marks

1. Fill the blanks correctly, using the appropriate word from those given in brackets (5 marks,)

- a) We all had atime at the zoo. (good, best, well)
- b) Neither of the sailorson deck during the storm last night (was, were, are)
- c) Between you andcouldn't we have done better in this test? (I, mine, me)
- d) Which of those two coats is theone? (very expensive, more expensive, most expensive)
- e) You didn't like the coffee (I didn't neither, neither did I, neither didn't I)

2. Rewrite the following sentences, obeying the instructions given in brackets. (5 marks)

Example: My tooth is seriously aching. (Turn into plural) Answer: My teeth are seriously aching.

- a) Bafoussam is about 300 kms away from Yaoundé (ask a question beginning with "how".)
- b) The King is also a good poet. (change into feminine)
- c) It rained heavily but they still came to school. (rewrite the sentence using "despite").
- d) The teacher wrote two sentences on the blackboard. (Turn into the passive)
- e) "I came, saw and conquered", Shakespeare said. (Put in the present simple tense).

Section II: Vocabulary

10 marks

1. In each of the following sentences, a word or phrase has been underlined. Choose among the words in brackets the nearest in meaning to the underlined word and in the space provided (5 marks),

- a) The child was abducted to an unknown destination. (killed, punished, kidnapped)
- b) Nowadays many teenagers find solace in drug abuse. (spinsters, youngsters, bachelors).
- c) Before operating a computer, one must know its password. (secret word, sacred word, modem)
- d) I don't know what it would be like to perform as a traditional singer in a world concert. (wonder, wander, ignore).
- e) There is an available position for a mechanic at the nearby garage. (a holiday, a vacancy, a vacation)

2. The underlined words have been used as verbs in the sentences below. Transform them into nouns without altering the meaning of the sentences (5 marks)

Example: Cameroonians are fighting corruption seriously.

Answer: There is a serious fight against corruption by Cameroonians

- a) The University of Dschang accommodates all willing Cameroonian students.
- b) Opposition parties are struggling for power.
- c) Men were hostile towards women in the Old African Kingdom.
- d) Martin Luther King championed the civil rights movement.
- e) All Governments refuse the idea of corruption.

Section III: Comprehension 10 marks

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below in complete and correct English sentences. Use your own words as much as possible.

How to develop interest in a subject

During your education you may have had to study some subjects that do not interest you or that do not seem to have any value. Nevertheless, they are subjects that must be studied and passed. It is helpful to realise as a matter of fact, that any subject is of interest and value. Many people have found it interesting and have made a career of the subject. It is you who have no interest. How can you develop interest?

First think of how and why the subject is important to your general education. Physics may not seem interesting to you, but you want to understand space exploration a little. Physics will be helpful. Biology may not seem interesting to you but if you are curious about the anatomy and function of your body, a little Biology will be helpful. The extent and variety of your interests help you to understand the modern world and to measure your growth as an educated well-rounded person.

Second, think how the subject is related to other subjects or to other times, places, problems and purposes. Although your study schedule is broken into separate and individual courses, you are not learning isolated information ideas. Ancient history has some relationship with current events; Physics and Philosophy are closely connected in many ways; Mathematics is useful in Economics; Psychology and Sociology are reflected in Literature. A subject that does not seem interesting in itself may be very interesting in relation to other subjects.

Third, interest depends upon understanding. If you do not understand the rules of baseball or cricket, you cannot have much interest in watching the game. But if you take time and trouble to study the rules, you may find it an interesting sport. When you begin to study a new subject, try to keep an

open mind. Do not start by thinking the subject is boring or difficult. Most of all, do not fall behind your; preparation, reading, classwork and homework. When you fail to learn one point of information, all the following that depends on it will not be clear to you. Because you do not understand, you will lose whatever interest you may have started with. To maintain interest and concentration, study regularly and do not be afraid to ask questions or seek help for anything which you do not understand.

Culled from *Use of English course for West African Students*. C 1984

Questions

1. Give two reasons why a student should study even the subjects that do not interest him/her. (2 marks)
2. What motivates a learned person to understand his environment and measure his output? (1 mark)
3. Give three ways in which a student can develop interest in a subject. (3 marks)
4. What, according to the writer, causes a student to lose interest in a particular subject? Give two reasons. (2 marks)
5. Do you find the writer's argument about developing an interest in a given subject convincing? Justify your answer. (2 marks)

Section IV: Essay

10 marks

Write an essay of between 180 and 220 words on any one of the topics that follow.

1. Consider yourself the leader of a students' association in your area. As a leader, how will you help or encourage your friends to go in for more challenging science subjects in school? Be precise in your effort to convince your friends.
2. Television is not good for children. Discuss.
3. Your parents want you to be a pilot. But you are interested in teaching. Discuss with your parents and convince them that teaching is the best profession.