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CONCOURS D'ENTREE A L'INSTITUT DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES
DU CAMEROUN - IRIC -

Session du 03 décembre 2009

COMPETITIVE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

03rd of december, 2009

FILIERE: DIPLOMATIE / SECTION : DIPLOMACY

English for french-speaking candidates

(all options)

Duration: 02hours

SECTION A : COMPREHENSION (10 marks)

Read carefully the following passage then answer the questions below it

N.B.: Write all yours answers on the composition paper.

The inaugural event of Africa's next decade happened outside the continent. It was the 2008 election of US President Barack Obama, making him the most powerful black president in the world and also one of the youngest. Hopefully, this should herald a sea – change in the chronic genuflection to age and its supposed seniority in Africa. Obama is a role model, although not the only one. China has as pronounced a cultural tradition revering age as any in Africa. But there, the president and prime minister of what will become one of the two most powerful states on earth are youngsters compared to the gerontocrats who rule Africa. What Africa needs is a new generation of leadership, one preferably not drawn from dynasties or lineages that trace back to the anti – colonial struggle. All this looking backwards when the urgency lies in looking forward! The leadership needs to change and the leadership pool needs to widen. External currents are driving Africa to change its leadership. Today's prime example is China, the world's largest manufacturer of personal computers and the most prolific producer of graduate engineers. There is a determination to compete internationally. But in so doing, China encourages Africa to maintain its position of recipient. Africa receives Chinese financing, and trades its mineral rights to the highest Chinese bidders. The 'conditionality – free' model is already being emulated by others. Russia has proposed a daring deal to capture the future of Nigeria's oil and gas. India's Mittal steel has launched a bid, again in Nigeria, based on Chinese – style investments and inducements. The Malaysians, Indonesians, and other Asian state are trying to do the same. In their wake will come private entrepreneurs. The new interlopers in Africa, the chancers who come to settle and set up businesses with no regard for labour laws and race relations, will be the East Europeans. Having made big inroads into the arms trade in Africa, Ukrainian companies are now searching for cheap investments which offer fast returns. These will not be Chinese – style shop-front businesses but will be based on asset stripping the less visible layers of the mining industry. This will inaugurate a new stage in Africa's love affair with corruption.

STEPHEN CHAN

The Africa Report n° 20 December 2009

Questions

1. Suggest a title to this passage (1. mark)
2. Why does the author consider the election of US President Barack Obama as an inaugural event? (1,5 marks)
3. Pick up similarities and differences between China, Africa and America? (1, 5 marks)
4. What does the authors suggest for an efficient change in Africa (1, 5 marks)
5. How does China emulate new partnership for Africa? (1, 5 marks)
6. Describe the Ukrainian approach to investment in Africa? (1, 5 marks)
7. Explain the phrase: "Africa's love affair with corruption", (1, 5 marks)

SECTION B: Translation (5 marks)

Translate into French the 2nd paragraph of the text.

SECTION C: VOCABULARY (5 marks)

I: Are the following expressions right or wrong? (2.5 marks)

- 1) His oldest child is fourteen years old.
- 2) I beg leave me alone.
- 3) Please fill this form in black ink.
- 4) With the expansion of telephone installations, many people prefer to phone rather than to write.
- 5) I and my brothers live in harmony.

II: In each of the following sentences write down the most appropriate option from the list. (2, 5 MARKS)

- 1) To ask permission to do something, which of this is not polite? (a) "would it be alright if I smoked"; b) "Would you mind if I smoked"; c) "I want to smoke"; d) "May I smoke?"
- 2) If you promise to give me a ring, you are going to: a) marry me; b) telephone me; c) buy me some jewellery; d) visit me.
- 3) If you don't like spending money you are mean. Which is the opposite? a) tight-fisted. b) penny- pincher. c) Stingy. d) Spendthrift.
- 4) Which word does not mean the same as the other three? a) harassed b) exhausted c) weary d) worn-out.
- 5) "Excuse me, could you tell me where _____? a) is the station? b) the station is? c) station is? d) the station?"

SECTION D: GRAMMAR (10 Marks)

I- Correct the following sentence (5 marks)

1. I call to thank you for the present you sent.
2. When have you got here?.
3. We've seen Charles in town the other day.
4. How long are you wearing glasses?
5. Take your umbrella before you'll go out.

II- Insert the missing prepositions in the following sentences (2.5 marks)

1. They tried to leave the country, afraid _____ their own lives.
2. We feel a little annoyed _____ the delay.
3. He's very good _____ languages.
4. She's really pleased _____ the car.
5. I'm sorry _____ giving you such a hard time.

III Select the word that fits in the following sentences (2,5 marks)

- 1) Most African bosses are not very kind _____ their collaborators. a) to b) with c) for d) against.
- 2) The director thanked his collaborators _____ all the assistance he had received from them. a) For b) upon c) on d) about.
- 3) If they receive their salary, they _____ their contribution a) would pay b) will pay c) would have paid d) would had pay.
- 4) Which of the following is connected to be young? a) pensioner b) over the hill c) about to retire d) troddler.
- 5) The minister explained to the graduating students what was required _____ them in their new profession. a) from b) to c) of d) in.

SECTION E: ESSAY (10 Marks)

- 1) The West is responsible for the destruction of African economy over the last decade. Discuss.
- 2) Corruption.
- 3) 2. Football in international relations.