

CONCOURS
ADVANCE 

ANNALES DU CONCOURS

ÉPREUVE ORALE :
ANGLAIS





ÉPREUVE D'ANGLAIS

Consignes aux candidats

Durée de l'épreuve : 30 minutes

L'oral d'anglais vise à tester le niveau de compréhension écrite et orale, et d'expression orale du candidat.

Déroulement

L'entretien débutera par quelques questions simples afin de briser la glace.

Vous lirez ensuite à voix haute un paragraphe, puis l'examinateur vous proposera de tirer au sort un texte court. Vous aurez 5 minutes de préparation puis en restituerez les idées principales et échangerez avec l'examinateur.

Vous tirerez de nouveau au sort un jeu de 3 questions sur un même thème sur lequel vous donnerez votre opinion après quelques minutes de réflexion et débattrez avec l'examinateur.

Critères d'évaluation

- Grammaire (exactitude, précision et structure du langage)
- Vocabulaire (approprié, riche, varié, expressions idiomatiques)
- Compréhension : écrite (lecture) et orale (conversation)
- Expression orale (cohérence, aisance, prononciation)

Consignes sur l'utilisation des annales

Des modèles de sujets sont mis à votre disposition pour que vous puissiez vous entraîner à lire oralement, exprimer votre compréhension et dégager vos idées.

Pour vous préparer au mieux, veillez à respecter les durées respectives prévues pour chaque étape de l'épreuve.

Partie 1 : Modèles de textes

Appuyez-vous sur les textes proposés pour vous exercer à la lecture à voix haute et à la compréhension écrite.

Partie 2 : Modèles de thèmes

Les thèmes présentés vous donneront une idée des sujets abordés et des questions posées lors de l'épreuve.

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ANNALES CONCOURS 2020

Partie 1 : Compréhension écrite
Modèles de textes





High school graduation speech

By a senior student (in terminale)

Who are we? That is a great question. We've spent the last 13 years of our lives trying to prepare for that, but it isn't something that you can Google. Well, you can Google it, but make sure that you turn on the safe search first. There is no telling what your results might be.

It's Okay to Not Know

However, Google won't tell us where our passion lies. It won't tell us who we are. And while some of us know, (your parents are breathing a deep sigh of relief right now), others of us don't, (sorry Mom and Dad). We don't know what we want to be when we grow up yet, and that is okay. Well, your parents might not think so when you are on your fourth major and they're paying your tuition, but it is still okay.

A New Chapter and Finding Your Passion

High school was fun, but we have turned a page in our life. We have moved from childhood into adulthood and now is the time to find our passion. It's time to learn what we want to be if we haven't figured it out, or follow our dream if we have. So parents, open up your wallets because studying philosophy isn't cheap.

Thank You All

Teachers, your passion and dedication has helped us to realize that being first in line isn't a life or death situation. And thank you for understanding that dogs can eat anything from homework to gym shorts. True story. Faculty, thank you for putting up with us from our nose picking days to raging hormonal breakdowns. Through it all, you have been our rocks. So as we take this final walk out of this school, we thank you all for helping us to answer the question of who we are.



Belgian city finds its former mayor's heart in a fountain

By Bart Biesemans, Clement Rossignol

VERVIERS (Reuters) - For years it was just an urban myth. Then the diggers moved in and found it was true - that the heart of a former mayor of the eastern Belgian city of Verviers really was buried under a fountain. A small metal box, containing Pierre David's heart in an ethanol-filled jar, was uncovered during renovation work on the city's ornate stone fountain last month.

The relic is mentioned in civic documents, but until it was found "no one really believed it," Verviers city councillor Maxime Degey told Reuters.

"Today the legend is no longer a legend. It's a reality."

David, the city's first mayor after Belgium became an independent country, was still in office when he died in 1839 after falling from a building.

Authorities built a fountain in his honour and, with his family's permission, placed his heart under a stone in the monument in 1883.

The box is on display at the Verviers Museum of Fine Arts and Ceramics. It will be returned to the Fontaine David in the city's Place Verte once the renovation is complete.

"I do not know of any other example of a mayor whose heart has been preserved in a monument ... in the middle of his town. That's unique," said Nathalie Weerts, the museum's deputy curator.

David first served as mayor of Verviers from 1800-1808, when Belgium was under French rule. His second stint in office began in 1830, the year that Belgium became an independent country. He established the city's first fire brigade and opened up politics, letting the public in to watch city council debates.

Reporting by Bart Biesemans, Clement Rossignol; Writing by Kate Abnett; Editing by Andrew Heavens



Mr. Jones

By Truman Capote

During the winter of 1945 I lived for several months in a rooming house in Brooklyn. It was not a shabby place, but a pleasantly furnished, elderly brownstone kept hospital-neat by its owners, two maiden sisters. Mr. Jones lived in the room next to mine. My room was the smallest in the house, his the largest, a nice big sunshiny room, which was just as well, for Mr. Jones never left it: all his needs, meals, shopping, laundry, were attended to by the middle-aged landladies. Also, he was not without visitors; on the average, a half-dozen various persons, man and women, young, old, in-between, visited his room each day, from early morning until late in the evening. He was not a drug dealer or a fortuneteller; no, they came just to talk to him and apparently they made him small gifts of money for his conversation and advice. If not, he had no obvious means of support.

I never had a conversation with Mr. Jones himself, a circumstance I've often since regretted. He was a handsome man, about forty. Slender, black-haired, and with a distinctive face: a pale, lean face, high cheekbones, and with a birthmark on his left cheek, a small scarlet defect shaped like a star. He wore gold-rimmed glasses with pitch-black lenses: he was blind, and crippled, too - according to the sisters, the use of his legs had been denied him by a childhood accident, and he could not move without crutches. He was always dressed in a crisply pressed dark grey or blue three-piece suit and a subdued tie - as though about to set off for a Wall Street office. However, as I've said, he never left the premises. Simply sat in his cheerful room in a comfortable chair and received visitors. I had no option of why they came to see him, these rather ordinary-looking folk, or what they talked about, and I was far too concerned with my own affairs to much wonder over it. When I did, I imagined that his friends had found in him an intelligent, kindly man, a good listener in whom to confide and consult with over their troubles: a cross between a priest and a therapist.

Mr. Jones had a telephone. He was the only tenant with a private line. It rang constantly, often after midnight and as early as six in the morning.

I moved to Manhattan. Several months later I returned to the house to collect a box of books I had stored there. While the landladies offered me tea and cakes in their lace-curtained "parlor", I inquired of Mr. Jones.

The women lowered their eyes. Clearing her throat, one said: "It's in the hand of the police."

The other offered: "We've reported him as missing person."

The first added: "Last month, twenty-six days ago, my sister carried up Mr. Jones's breakfast, as usual. He wasn't there. All his belongings were there. But he was gone.

"It's odd-"

"-how a man totally blind, a helpless crippled-"

Ten years pass.

Now it is a zero-cold December afternoon, and I am in Moscow. I am riding in a subway car. There are only a few other passengers. One of them is a man sitting opposite to me, a man wearing boots, a thick long coat and a Russian-style fur cap. He has bright eyes, blue as a peacock's. After a doubtful instant, I simply stared, for even without the black glasses, there was no mistaking that lean distinctive face, those high cheekbones with the single scarlet star-shaped birthmark.

I was just about to cross the aisle and speak to him when the train pulled into a station, and Mr. Jones, on a pair of fine sturdy legs, stood up and strode out of the car. Swiftly, the train door closed behind him.



The movie director and the old man

A Hollywood director was making a film in India. For the film, he needed to have clear blue skies, so the weather conditions were very important to him. One evening, after filming all day he saw a very old man, sitting with his legs crossed on the ground.

‘It’s going to rain for three days. On the fourth day, the sun will shine again,’ the ancient man said wisely.

The next day it rained heavily and there was no filming that day or for three days afterwards. On the morning of the fourth day, as the old man predicted, the sun was shining down and conditions were perfect for filming. That evening, when the director was walking past, the old man said,

‘There’s going to be a big storm tomorrow.’

Sure, enough, the next day there was a big storm, just as the man said.

After a week of making perfect predictions, the director decided to use the old man’s wisdom and pay him to work as a weather man for the film crew. The old man agreed to tell the director what the weather was likely to do. This worked very well for the next few weeks of filming. Every day the old man told the director what the weather would be the next day, and the director paid him well for the valuable information. One day, however, the old man failed to arrive on the set. The next day the director sent for him and said,

‘Your predictions are very important to me and to my work. I’m shooting a big scene tomorrow and I have to know what the weather is going to be like.’

The old man shrugged his shoulders.

‘Sorry,’ he said, ‘I can’t help you today. My radio’s broken.’



Cover Letter

Jane Smith

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555.555.5555 | jane.smith22@email.com

February 9, 2018

Samantha Covington
Senior Electrician
Valar Flight, Inc.
100 Main Street
Somewhere, NY 00000

Dear Ms. Covington:

I am an engineer with expertise in designing, developing, and modifying drones. I would like to bring my experience and success to the aerospace engineer position you are currently advertising, specifically contributing the following to Valar Flight, Inc.:

- Expertise in AutoCAD/CADD, structural design, advanced calculus & trigonometry, thermodynamics, propulsion, and guidance control systems.
- Aptitude for analyzing and upgrading the aerodynamic performance of aircraft,
- Extensive knowledge of state and federal aviation guidelines and protocols.

As an intern with Coltrp Aviation, I was responsible for producing 3D imaging of aircraft components, I gained extensive experience in studying and modifying mechanical aspects of flight hardware, flight support systems, and ground support systems.

Then, as a junior mechanical engineer with Bell Avionics, Inc., I was the leader of a team that redesigned the company's drone fleet. My team's successful efforts led to a 35% reduction to the weight of completed drones and a 21% reduction in production cost. As your position requires management and design expertise, I believe I would serve Valar Flight, Inc. well in this role.

I would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you to further discuss my aerospace engineering experience at your earliest convenience. I may be reached at 555.555.5555 or via email at jane.smith22@email.com. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jane Smith



Hitting net zero is not enough we must restore the climate

Environmental activists urge governments and companies to start acting, not only to drastically cut greenhouse gas emissions, but to achieve restoration as well.

The climate crisis is here now. No matter how quickly we reach zero emissions, the terrible impacts of the climate crisis will not just go away. They will continue to cause millions to suffer for centuries to come, even in the most ambitious scenarios. As such, no matter how quickly it is done, solely cutting emissions is not enough.

This is why we believe the ideal solution to the climate crisis would be to go beyond net zero, and start to restore the climate. This would be done by, on top of reducing emissions to zero, removing huge amounts of greenhouse gases (GHGs) from the atmosphere. As such, we aim to restore the climate to as close to a safe climate as possible.

Reaching zero emissions as quickly as possible is a necessary prerequisite for any attempt at restoration. The key purpose of removals should be to attempt to remove as much historic GHGs from the atmosphere as possible. This is not an excuse to reduce ambition on cutting emissions, because we don't have the capacity to remove future emissions as well. Restoration is not about promoting one specific removal technique, but supporting the basic aim of trying to restore the climate. To restore the climate and have a safe future, we need to maximise mitigation, adaptation and removals.

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Partie 2 : expression orale
Modèles de thèmes





Possible general discussion subjects

1. Social networks: advantages and risks.
2. How has the Internet changed our lives?
3. Robots: are we becoming dependant? Could they become dangerous?
4. Car pooling. Is it a good idea? Do you use it?
5. Cyber bullying? How dangerous is it?
6. Is censorship on the Internet a good or a bad thing?
7. Will drones ever replace piloted aircraft?
8. Would you volunteer to be part of an exploration mission to Mars?
9. Is space exploration a waste of money?
10. Video games addiction: Is there a risk?
11. What is a good job for you? (salary, interest, career opportunity, boss, colleagues...)
12. How do you see yourself in 20 years? (job, family, place, environment...)
13. What aspect of typical French culture would you suggest for a foreigner to understand France? Why?
14. In most professions, including engineering, is imagination more important than knowledge?
15. Energy: How can the world's ever growing needs be satisfied (oil, gas, nuclear, renewable energies...)
16. Is English the world language?
17. Describe a movie, TV serial, TV show, concert, book... you would recommend to others
18. What are the best thing and the worst things about the French education system?
19. When was the last time you got extremely angry –explain the situation.
20. Name 2 situations in which men and women usually act differently.
21. Name your favorite pop singer or band and say why you like them so much.
22. Is success the result of talent or hard work?
23. Artificial Intelligence: threat or opportunity for humankind?
24. Describe a TV show, movie, book that has influenced your worldview.
25. Smartphone notifications: pros and cons.
26. Describe what France / your country will be like in 20 years from now (technologically, economically, socially, etc.)