

INSTITUT D'ETUDES POLITIQUES D'AIX-EN-PROVENCE – FORMATION CONTINUE

EXAMEN D'ENTREE DU VENDREDI 7 SEPTEMBRE 2012

DE 11h30 à 12h30

EPREUVE ANGLAIS – QCM

ENTRANCE TEST : 2012

INSTITUT D'ETUDES POLITIQUES

FORMATION CONTINUE

Time 1 Hour

Three Sections :

20 marks

1. Writing
2. Structure and Written Expression 40 Questions 40 Marks
3. Reading Comprehension 40 questions 40 marks

You are strongly advised to start the test at section 2 then section 3 and finally Section 1.

Answer all questions

Section 1

Write approximately 10 lines (120 words) explaining who you are and why you have decided to enrol at Sciences Po.

Structure and Written Expression 2

This section is designed to measure your ability to recognize language that is appropriate for standard written English. There are two types of questions in this section, with special directions for each type.

Structure

Directions: Questions 1-15 are incomplete sentences. Beneath each sentence you will see four words or phrases, marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the one word or phrase that best completes the sentence. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer you have chosen.

Example I

Geysers have often been compared to volcanoes ----- they both emit hot liquids from below the Earth's surface.

- (A) due to
- (B) because
- (C) in spite of
- (D) regardless of

The sentence should read, "Geysers have often been compared to volcanoes because they both emit hot liquids from below the Earth's surface." Therefore, you should choose (B).

Example II

During the early period of ocean navigation, ----- any need for sophisticated instruments and techniques.

- (A) so that hardly
- (B) when there hardly was
- (C) hardly was
- (D) there was hardly

The sentence should read, "During the early period of ocean navigation, there was hardly any need for sophisticated instruments and techniques." Therefore, you should choose (D).

Now begin work on the questions.

- 2
- 2
- 2
- 2
- 2
- 2
- 2
- 2
- 2
- 2

1. Like bacteria, protozoans ----- by splitting in two.

- (A) reproducing
- (B) reproduce
- (C) to reproduce
- (D) reproduction

2. Geothermal energy is a potentially inexhaustible energy source ----- been tapped by humans for centuries but, until recent years, only on a small scale.

- (A) has it
- (B) has
- (C) that has
- (D) that it has

3. The importance of the hand, and more generally of the body, in children's acquisition of arithmetic -----

- (A) can hardly be exaggerated
- (B) hardly exaggerated can be
- (C) can be exaggerated hardly
- (D) exaggerated can be hardly

4. ----- is present in the body in greater amounts than any other mineral.

- (A) Calcium
- (B) There is calcium
- (C) Calcium, which
- (D) It is calcium

5. ----- the evidence is inconclusive, it is thought that at least some seals have an echolocation system akin to that of bats, porpoises, and shrews.

- (A) Rather
- (B) Despite
- (C) Although
- (D) Why

6. Pearl Snydenstricker Buck, ----- the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1938, is best known for her novels about China.

- (A) won
- (B) winner of
- (C) to win
- (D) who the winner of

7. Salamanders are sometimes confused with lizards, but unlike lizards ----- no scales or claws.

- (A) that they have
- (B) to have
- (C) they have
- (D) are having

8. ----- main processes involved in virtually all manufacturing: extraction, assembly, and alteration.

- (A) There are three
- (B) Three
- (C) The three
- (D) Three of the

9. The province of Alberta lies along three of the major North American flyways used by birds ----- between their winter and summer homes.

- (A) the migration
- (B) migrating
- (C) migrate
- (D) and migrate

10. Astronomers estimate ----- called the Pleiades in the constellation Taurus is 415 light-years away from Earth.

- (A) that a loose cluster of stars
- (B) a loose cluster of stars is
- (C) that is a loose cluster of stars
- (D) there is a loose cluster of stars

11. Most documentary filmmakers use neither actors ----- studio settings.

- (A) or else
- (B) but not
- (C) nor
- (D) and

12. Stage producers Klaw and Erlanger were the first to eliminate arguments among leading performers ----- in order of appearance, instead of prominence.

- (A) of whom list the program
- (B) the program listing
- (C) for them the program listed
- (D) by listing them on the program

13. During the decades after the United States Civil War, a host of technical advances made possible ----- and uniformity of railroad service.

- (A) a new integration
- (B) for a new integration
- (C) that a new integration
- (D) and a new integration

14. The total mass of all asteroids in the solar system is much less ----- mass of Earth's Moon.

- (A) than that is the
- (B) than the
- (C) the
- (D) is the

15. Forests stabilize ----- and retain precipitation, thereby helping to prevent erosion and regulate the flow of streams.

- (A) to the soil
- (B) the soil
- (C) where the soil
- (D) the soil is

Written Expression

Directions: In questions 16-40 each sentence has four underlined words or phrases. The four underlined parts of the sentence are marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the one underlined word or phrase that must be changed in order for the sentence to be correct. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer you have chosen.

Example I

Guppies are sometimes call rainbow fish because of the males' bright colors.

- A
- B
- C
- D

Sample Answer

- A
- B
- C
- D

The sentence should read, "Guppies are sometimes called rainbow fish because of the males' bright colors." Therefore, you should choose (A).

Example II

Serving several term in Congress, Shirley Chisholm became an important United States politician.

- A
- B
- C
- D

Sample Answer

- A
- B
- C
- D

The sentence should read, "Serving several terms in Congress, Shirley Chisholm became an important United States politician." Therefore, you should choose (B).

Now begin work on the questions.

16. In 1884 Belva Lockwood, a lawyer who had appeared before the Supreme Court, became the first woman was nominated for President of the United States.
C D A B
17. Modern societies are such complex that they could not exist without a well-developed system of law.
A B C D
18. Petroleum, which currently makes up about four-tenths of the world's energy production, supplies more commercial energy than any another source.
B A C D
19. Altitude, climate, temperature, and the length of the growing season both determine where plants will grow.
A B C D
20. There were once only eight major lakes or reservoirs in Texas, but today there are over 180, many built to storing water against periodic droughts.
A B C D
21. All harmonized music that is not contrapuntal depends from the relationship of chords, which are either consonant or dissonant.
A B C D
22. Expressionist drama often shows the influence of modern psychology by reflecting the frustrations inner of the dramatist.
A B C D
23. The most important parameters affecting a rocket's maximum flight velocity is the relationship between the vehicle's mass and the amount of propellant it can carry.
A B C D

24. Ethnology, usually considered a branch of cultural anthropology, is often defined as the scientifically study of the origin and functioning of humans and their cultures.
A B C D
25. Physicists have known since the early nineteenth century that all matter is made up of tiny extremely particles called atoms.
A B C D
26. The sea otter is well adapted at its marine existence, with ears and nostrils that can be closed under water.
A B C D
27. Someone may refuse to recognize the seriousness of an emotionally threatening situation and perceive as less threatening.
A B C D
28. When swollen by melting snow or heavy rain, some rivers routinely overflow its banks.
A B C D
29. The taller of all animals, a full-grown giraffe may be eighteen feet or more high.
A B C D
30. Through experiments with marine organisms, marine biologists can increase our knowledge of human reproductive and development as well as our understanding of the nervous system.
A B C D
31. It is the number, kind, and arrange of teeth that determine whether a mammal is classified as a carnivore—not the food that the animal actually eats.
A B C D

Go on to the next page

Go on to the next page

Reading Comprehension



Directions: In this section you will read several passages. Each one is followed by several questions about it. For questions 1-50, you are to choose the one best answer, (A), (B), (C), or (D), to each question. Then, on your answer sheet, find the number of the question and fill in the space that corresponds to the letter of the answer you have chosen.

Answer all questions following a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.

Read the following passage:

The railroad was not the first institution to impose regularity on society, or to draw attention to the importance of precise timekeeping. For as long as merchants have set out their wares at daybreak and communal festivities have been celebrated, people have been in rough agreement with their neighbors as to the time of day. The value of this tradition is today more apparent than ever. Were it not for public acceptance of a single yardstick of time, social life would be unbearably chaotic: the massive daily transfers of goods, services, and information would proceed in fits and starts; the very fabric of modern society would begin to unravel.

Example I

What is the main idea of the passage?

Sample Answer

- (A) In modern society we must make more time for our neighbors.
- (B) The traditions of society are timeless.
- (C) An accepted way of measuring time is essential for the smooth functioning of society.
- (D) Society judges people by the times at which they conduct certain activities.

(A) (B) (C) (D)

The main idea of the passage is that societies need to agree about how time is to be measured in order to function smoothly. Therefore, you should choose (C).

Example II

In line 5, the phrase "this tradition" refers to

Sample Answer

- (A) the practice of starting the business day at dawn
- (B) friendly relations between neighbors
- (C) the railroad's reliance on time schedules
- (D) people's agreement on the measurement of time

(A) (B) (C) (D)

The phrase "this tradition" refers to the preceding clause, "people have been in rough agreement with their neighbors as to the time of day." Therefore, you should choose (D). Now begin work on the questions.



Questions 1-8

With Robert Laurent and William Zorach, direct carving enters into the story of modern sculpture in the United States. Direct carving — in which the sculptors themselves carve stone or wood with mallet and chisel — must be recognized as *line* something more than just a technique. Implicit in it is an aesthetic principle as well: (5) that the medium has certain qualities of beauty and expressiveness with which sculptors must bring their own aesthetic sensibilities into harmony. For example, sometimes the shape or veining in a piece of stone or wood suggests, perhaps even dictates, not only the ultimate form, but even the subject matter.

The technique of direct carving was a break with the nineteenth-century tradition in (10) which the making of a clay model was considered the creative act and the work was then turned over to studio assistants to be cast in plaster or bronze or carved in marble. Neoclassical sculptors seldom held a mallet or chisel in their own hands, readily conceding that the assistants they employed were far better than they were at carving the finished marble.

(15) With the turn-of-the-century Crafts movement and the discovery of nontraditional sources of inspiration, such as wooden African figures and masks, there arose a new urge for hands-on, personal execution of art and an interaction with the medium. Even as early as the 1880's and 1890's, nonconformist European artists were attempting direct carving. By the second decade of the twentieth century, Americans — Laurent (20) and Zorach most notably — had adopted it as their primary means of working. Born in France, Robert Laurent (1890-1970) was a prodigy who received his education in the United States. In 1905 he was sent to Paris as an apprentice to an art dealer, and in the years that followed he witnessed the birth of Cubism, discovered primitive art, and learned the techniques of woodcarving from a frame maker.

(25) Back in New York City by 1910, Laurent began carving pieces such as *The Priestess*, which reveals his fascination with African, pre-Columbian, and South Pacific art. Taking a walnut plank, the sculptor carved the expressive, stylized design. It is one of the earliest examples of direct carving in American sculpture. The plank's form dictated the rigidly frontal view and the low relief. Even its irregular shape must (30) have appealed to Laurent as a break with a long-standing tradition that required a sculptor to work within a perfect rectangle or square.

- The word "medium" in line 5 could be used to refer to
 - (A) stone or wood
 - (B) mallet and chisel
 - (C) technique
 - (D) principle

- What is one of the fundamental principles of direct carving?
 - (A) A sculptor must work with talented assistants.
 - (B) The subject of a sculpture should be derived from classical stories.
 - (C) The material is an important element in a sculpture.
 - (D) Designing a sculpture is a more creative activity than carving it.



- The word "dictates" in line 8 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) reads aloud
 - (B) determines
 - (C) includes
 - (D) records

- How does direct carving differ from the nineteenth-century tradition of sculpture?
 - (A) Sculptors are personally involved in the carving of a piece.
 - (B) Sculptors find their inspiration in neoclassical sources.
 - (C) Sculptors have replaced the mallet and chisel with other tools.
 - (D) Sculptors receive more formal training.

- The word "witnessed" in line 23 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) influenced
 - (B) studied
 - (C) validated
 - (D) observed

- Where did Robert Laurent learn to carve?
 - (A) New York
 - (B) Africa
 - (C) The South Pacific
 - (D) Paris

- The phrase "a break with" in line 30 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) a destruction of
 - (B) a departure from
 - (C) a collapse of
 - (D) a solution to

- The piece titled *The Priestess* has all of the following characteristics EXCEPT.
 - (A) The design is stylized.
 - (B) It is made of marble.
 - (C) The carving is not deep.
 - (D) It depicts the front of a person.





Questions 9-19

Birds that feed in flocks commonly retire together into roosts. The reasons for roosting communally are not always obvious, but there are some likely benefits. In winter especially, it is important for birds to keep warm at night and conserve precious food reserves. One way to do this is to find a sheltered roost. Solitary roosters shelter in

(5) dense vegetation or enter a cavity — horned larks dig holes in the ground and ptarmigan burrow into snow banks — but the effect of sheltering is magnified by several birds huddling together in the roosts, as wrens, swifts, brown creepers, bluebirds, and ants do. Body contact reduces the surface area exposed to the cold air, so the birds keep each other warm. Two kinglets huddling together were found to

(10) reduce their heat losses by a quarter, and three together saved a third of their heat. The second possible benefit of communal roosts is that they act as "information centers." During the day, parties of birds will have spread out to forage over a very large area. When they return in the evening some will have fed well, but others may have found little to eat. Some investigators have observed that when the birds set out again next morning, those birds that did not feed well on the previous day appear to follow those that did. The behavior of common and lesser kestrels may illustrate

(15) different feeding behaviors of similar birds with different roosting habits. The common kestrel hunts vertebrate animals in a small, familiar hunting ground, whereas the very similar lesser kestrel feeds on insects over a large area. The common kestrel roosts and hunts alone, but the lesser kestrel roosts and hunts in flocks, possibly so one bird can learn from others where to find insect swarms.

(20) Finally, there is safety in numbers at communal roosts since there will always be a few birds awake at any given moment to give the alarm. But this increased protection is partially counteracted by the fact that mass roosts attract predators and are especially vulnerable if they are on the ground. Even those in trees can be attacked by birds of prey. The birds on the edge are at greatest risk since predators find it easier to catch small birds perching at the margins of the roost.

(25) prey. The birds on the edge are at greatest risk since predators find it easier to catch small birds perching at the margins of the roost.

9. What does the passage mainly discuss?

- (A) How birds find and store food
- (B) How birds maintain body heat in the winter
- (C) Why birds need to establish territory
- (D) Why some species of birds nest together

10. The word "conserve" in line 3 is closest in meaning to

- (A) retain
- (B) watch
- (C) locate
- (D) share

11. Ptarmigan keep warm in the winter by

- (A) huddling together on the ground with other birds
- (B) building nests in trees
- (C) burrowing into dense patches of vegetation
- (D) digging tunnels into the snow



12. The word "magnified" in line 6 is closest in meaning to

- (A) caused
- (B) modified
- (C) intensified
- (D) combined

13. The author mentions kinglets in line 9 as an example of birds that

- (A) protect themselves by nesting in holes
- (B) nest with other species of birds
- (C) nest together for warmth
- (D) usually feed and nest in pairs

14. The word "forage" in line 12 is closest in meaning to

- (A) fly
- (B) assemble
- (C) feed
- (D) rest

15. Which of the following statements about lesser and common kestrels is true?

- (A) The lesser kestrel and the common kestrel have similar diets.
- (B) The lesser kestrel feeds sociably but the common kestrel does not.
- (C) The common kestrel nests in larger flocks than does the lesser kestrel.
- (D) The common kestrel nests in trees; the lesser kestrel nests on the ground.

16. The word "counteracted" in line 24 is closest in meaning to

- (A) suggested
- (B) negated
- (C) measured
- (D) shielded

17. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage as an advantage derived by birds that huddle together while sleeping?

- (A) Some members of the flock warm others of impending dangers.
- (B) Staying together provides a greater amount of heat for the whole flock.
- (C) Some birds in the flock function as information centers for others who are looking for food.
- (D) Several members of the flock care for the young.

18. Which of the following is a disadvantage of communal roosts that is mentioned in the passage?

- (A) Diseases easily spread among the birds.
- (B) Groups are more attractive to predators than individual birds are.
- (C) Food supplies are quickly depleted.
- (D) Some birds in the group will attack the others.

19. The word "they" in line 25 refers to

- (A) a few birds
- (B) mass roosts
- (C) predators
- (D) trees





Questions 20-30

Before the mid-nineteenth century, people in the United States ate most foods only in season. Drying, smoking, and salting could preserve meat for a short time, but the availability of fresh meat, like that of fresh milk, was very limited; there was no way to prevent spoilage. But in 1810 a French inventor named Nicolas Appert developed the cooking-and-sealing process of canning. And in the 1850's an American named Gail Borden developed a means of condensing and preserving milk. Canned goods and condensed milk became more common during the 1860's, but supplies remained low because cans had to be made by hand. By 1880, however, inventors had fashioned stamping and soldering machines that mass-produced cans from tinsplate. Suddenly all kinds of food could be preserved and bought at all times of the year.

Other trends and inventions had also helped make it possible for Americans to vary their daily diets. Growing urban populations created demand that encouraged fruit and vegetable farmers to raise more produce. Railroad refrigerator cars enabled growers and meat packers to ship perishables great distances and to preserve them for longer periods. Thus, by the 1890's, northern city dwellers could enjoy southern and western strawberries, grapes, and tomatoes, previously available for a month at most, for up to six months of the year. In addition, increased use of iceboxes enabled families to store perishables. An easy means of producing ice commercially had been invented in the 1870's, and by 1900 the nation had more than two thousand commercial ice plants, most of which made home deliveries. The icebox became a fixture in most homes and remained so until the mechanized refrigerator replaced it in the 1920's and 1930's.

Almost everyone now had a more diversified diet. Some people continued to eat mainly foods that were heavy in starches or carbohydrates, and not everyone could afford meat. Nevertheless, many families could take advantage of previously unavailable fruits, vegetables, and dairy products to achieve more varied fare.

20. What does the passage mainly discuss?
- (A) Causes of food spoilage
(B) Commercial production of ice
(C) Inventions that led to changes in the American diet
(D) Population movements in the nineteenth century
21. The phrase "in season" in line 2 refers to
- (A) a kind of weather
(B) a particular time of year
(C) an official schedule
(D) a method of flavoring food



22. The word "prevent" in line 4 is closest in meaning to
- (A) estimate
(B) avoid
(C) correct
(D) confine
23. During the 1860's, canned food products were
- (A) unavailable in rural areas
(B) shipped in refrigerator cars
(C) available in limited quantities
(D) a staple part of the American diet
24. It can be inferred that railroad refrigerator cars came into use
- (A) before 1860
(B) before 1890
(C) after 1900
(D) after 1920
25. The word "them" in line 14 refers to
- (A) refrigerator cars
(B) perishables
(C) growers
(D) distances
26. The word "fixture" in line 20 is closest in meaning to
- (A) luxury item
(B) substance
(C) commonplace object
(D) mechanical device
27. The author implies that in the 1920's and 1930's home deliveries of ice
- (A) decreased in number
(B) were on an irregular schedule
(C) increased in cost
(D) occurred only in the summer

The questions for this passage continue on the next page.





The following questions are based on the passage on page 144.

28. The word "Nevertheless" in line 24 is closest in meaning to
- (A) therefore
 - (B) because
 - (C) occasionally
 - (D) however
29. Which of the following types of food preservation was NOT mentioned in the passage?
- (A) Drying
 - (B) Canning
 - (C) Cold storage
 - (D) Chemical additives
30. Which of the following statements is supported by the passage?
- (A) Tin cans and iceboxes helped to make many foods more widely available.
 - (B) Commercial ice factories were developed by railroad owners.
 - (C) Most farmers in the United States raised only fruits and vegetables.
 - (D) People who lived in cities demanded home delivery of foods.



Section 3 continues.
Turn the page and read the next passage.





Questions 39-50

The changing profile of a city in the United States is apparent in the shifting definitions used by the United States Bureau of the Census. In 1870 the census officially distinguished the nation's "urban" from its "rural" population for the first time. "Urban population" was defined as persons living in towns of 8,000 inhabitants or more. But after 1900 it meant persons living in incorporated places having 2,500 or more inhabitants.

Then, in 1950 the Census Bureau radically changed its definition of "urban" to take account of the new vagueness of city boundaries. In addition to persons living in incorporated units of 2,500 or more, the census now included those who lived in unincorporated units of that size, and also all persons living in the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas located around cities of 50,000 inhabitants or more. Each such unit, conceived as an integrated economic and social unit with a large population nucleus, was named a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA).

Each SMSA would contain at least (a) one central city with 50,000 inhabitants or more or (b) two cities having shared boundaries and constituting, for general economic and social purposes, a single community with a combined population of at least 50,000, the smaller of which must have a population of at least 15,000. Such an area would include the county in which the central city was located, and adjacent counties that were found to be metropolitan in character and economically and socially integrated with the county of the central city. By 1970, about two-thirds of the population of the United States was living in these urbanized areas, and of that figure more than half were living *outside* the central cities.

While the Census Bureau and the United States government used the term SMSA (by 1969 there were 233 of them), social scientists were also using new terms to describe the elusive, vaguely defined areas reaching out from what used to be simple "towns" and "cities." A host of terms came into use: "metropolitan regions," "polynucleated population groups," "conurbations," "metropolitan clusters," "megapolises," and so on.

39. What does the passage mainly discuss?
- (A) How cities in the United States began and developed
 - (B) Solutions to overcrowding in cities
 - (C) The changing definition of an urban area
 - (D) How the United States Census Bureau conducts a census
40. According to the passage, the population of the United States was first classified as rural or urban in
- (A) 1870
 - (B) 1900
 - (C) 1950
 - (D) 1970

41. The word "distinguished" in line 3 is closest in meaning to
- (A) differentiated
 - (B) removed
 - (C) honored
 - (D) protected
42. Prior to 1900, how many inhabitants would a town have to have before being defined as urban?
- (A) 2,500
 - (B) 8,000
 - (C) 15,000
 - (D) 50,000

43. According to the passage, why did the Census Bureau revise the definition of urban in 1950?
- (A) City borders had become less distinct.
 - (B) Cities had undergone radical social change.
 - (C) Elected officials could not agree on an acceptable definition.
 - (D) New businesses had relocated to larger cities.
44. The word "those" in line 9 refers to
- (A) boundaries
 - (B) persons
 - (C) units
 - (D) areas

45. The word "constituting" in line 16 is closest in meaning to
- (A) located near
 - (B) determined by
 - (C) calling for
 - (D) making up
46. The word "which" in line 18 refers to a smaller
- (A) population
 - (B) city
 - (C) character
 - (D) figure

47. Which of the following is NOT true of an SMSA?
- (A) It has a population of at least 50,000.
 - (B) It can include a city's outlying regions.
 - (C) It can include unincorporated regions.
 - (D) It consists of at least two cities.
48. By 1970, what proportion of the population in the United States did NOT live in an SMSA?
- (A) 3/4
 - (B) 2/3
 - (C) 1/2
 - (D) 1/3

49. The Census Bureau first used the term "SMSA" in
- (A) 1900
 - (B) 1950
 - (C) 1969
 - (D) 1970
50. Where in the passage does the author mention names used by social scientists for an urban area?
- (A) Lines 4-5
 - (B) Lines 7-8
 - (C) Lines 21-23
 - (D) Lines 27-29

