

**EXAMEN DU BACCALAUREAT  
SESSION DE JUIN 2011**

**SESSION  
PRINCIPALE**

**SECTION : L E T T R E S**

**EPREUVE : A N G L A I S**

**DUREE : 2 heures**

**COEFFICIENT : 2**

Le sujet comporte 4 pages numérotées de 1/4 à 4/4

**I- READING COMPREHENSION (15 marks)**

**THE TEXT**

1- Maria Vespa sat at her family kitchen's counter to take her mid-term test. The 15-year old stared intently at her computer screen as test questions popped up. She'd study each for a minute, take another bite of lunch and click on an answer. When she got stumped, she pulled out her notebook. "That's one of the great things about online school," Maria said. "You get to use your notes when taking tests." Another great thing about online school: instant grades. A few moments after Maria answered the last test question, her score popped up.

2- Maria has been going to virtual school for three years. She is already on her second school after encountering problems with teachers at her first virtual school. Despite that glitch, the ninth-grader said she likes it. "It's a lot better than public school where girls were mean and cliquey; I hated that." She said the experience does not prevent her from making friends or getting involved. She has met a lot of people through her drama club.

3- Maria's sister, Anna who also enrolled in virtual school, has a different take on the experience. While Maria was taking her geography test, the 13-year old Anna sat in the family's living room. She was also "at school," with her laptop opened to an online math lesson. "I hate it," she said about going to school online. "It was different for my sister because none of the girls were really nice to her, but I never had that problem. All my best friends are at school." Anna transferred to Minnesota Virtual High School from Hermantown Middle School this year after her parents bought her a horse; the deal was, if she got the horse, she had to take care of it. The flexibility of the online schedule allows her to do that. But Anna said she misses her friends, extracurricular activities and the structure of traditional school.

4- "It's harder for me to concentrate like this," she said. "I'll be doing an assignment and I'll want to go on Facebook to do something else. Plus, it's all reading, and I hate reading. I like to be shown what to do instead of having to read what to do." She also said teachers aren't always as helpful when they are not instructing you in person.

*Duluth News Tribune.*  
December 20, 2009.



Section : ..... N° d'inscription : ..... Série : .....  
 Nom et prénom : .....  
 Date et lieu de naissance : .....

Signatures des surveillants  
 .....  
 .....



Epreuve : ANGLAIS - Section : Lettres

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

### 1. Complete the sentence with 3 words from the text. (3 marks)

Enrolling in an online or ..... school involves 'attending' lessons or ..... tests through an ordinary computer or a .....

### 2. Focus on paragraph 3 and find words or expressions having nearly the same meaning as (2 marks)

- a) Not to have the same opinion = .....  
 b) An agreement = .....

### 3. Why did Maria and Anna enrol in online schools? How do they feel about attending online schools? Focus on paragraphs 2 and 3 and complete the sentences below. (4 marks)

- a) Maria Vespa attends a virtual school because in the public school.....  
 ..... She .....attending online schools.  
 b) Anna Vespa attends an online school in order to .....  
 ..... She .....attending online schools.

### 4. Complete the following table with the appropriate information from the text. (5 marks)

Advantages of online schools	Disadvantages of online schools
- using one's notes when taking tests	- .....
- .....	- not having extracurricular activities
- avoiding bullying or unpleasant classmates	- .....
- .....	- .....
- not having to memorize information	- teachers aren't always helpful
-studying In the comfort of one's home	-missing the structure of traditional school

### 5. What do you think of online schooling? Why? Give a justified personal answer. (1 mark)

I think that online schooling .....  
 because .....

**II- WRITING (15 marks)**

1. Use the information in the table below to write a 5-line paragraph about the Cannes Film Festival. (5 marks)

<b>Name of the festival</b>	Cannes Film Festival
<b>Launching year</b>	1946
<b>Occurrence</b>	annually, usually in May
<b>Type of festival</b>	non public / open only to stars
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• honouring the best film</li><li>• recognizing excellence of professionals in the film industry</li></ul>
<b>Awards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Golden Palm (top prize of the festival);</li><li>• The Jury Prize</li><li>• many others</li></ul>

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2. Write a 12-line article for your school magazine and explain why you prefer to review for exams on your own or with a group of friends. (10 marks)

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### III- LANGUAGE (10 marks)

#### 1. Fill in the blanks with 6 words from the box. (3 marks)

comparison – however – similar – offers – whenever – scarcity – variety – enhances

The best reason why one should live in the countryside is the amount of free space available there. Unlike cities, where people live in congested areas with housing limited to apartments, the countryside ..... us much more land to live on. We can live in our own house with our own private garden. This ..... the spirit of independence and helps good psychological growth. In a free space, ..... we feel like, we can easily go for a walk outside our house. The dense urban landscape is populated only by people, and there is a ....., and even non-existence of vegetation and animal life. In the countryside, however, nature is everywhere and abundant: there is a large ..... of flora, fauna and plant life. Due to this, the scenery in the countryside is marvellous in ..... with the jungle of concrete one sees by one's window in the town.

#### 2. Circle the right alternative. (3 marks)

Swimming with dolphins is not only fun, but also medicine. In a recent study published in *the British Medical Journal*, researchers found that [addicts / patients / victims] with mild to moderate depression [whose / whom / who] splashed around with dolphins reported [great / greater / greatest] improvements in their symptoms than a control group who swam on their own in a coral reef. Animal therapy isn't new. Greek soldiers put wounded comrades [off / on / below] their horses to help them heal. But during the past several years, researchers have published reports on a variety of [remedial / remedy / remedies] from horse-back riding to fish tanks. Plants, too, have their own [field / farm / land] of study: horticultural therapy.

#### 3. Supply the right tense or form of the bracketed words. (4 marks)

More than 50,000 people are dying prematurely in the UK every year, and many more suffer serious [ill] ..... because of man-made air pollution, according to a parliamentary report to be [publish] ..... tomorrow. The UK now faces the threat of £300 million in fines after it [fail] ..... to meet legally binding E.U targets to reduce pollution to safe levels. Air pollution is cutting life [expect] ..... by as many as nine years in the worst-affected city areas. On average, Britons die eight months too soon because of dirty air. [pollute] ..... substances from cars, factories, houses and agriculture cause childhood health problems such as premature births, asthma and poor lung development. They play a major role in the development of chronic and life-shortening adult diseases [affect] ..... the heart and lungs, which can lead to repeated hospital admissions. The UK [spend] ..... up to £20 billion each year on the [treat] ..... of the victims of poor air quality.