

REPUBLIQUE TUNISIENNE MINISTERE DE L'EDUCATION ET DE LA FORMATION EXAMEN DU BACCALAUREAT SESSION DE JUIN 2008		NOUVEAU REGIME	
		SESSION DE CONTROLE	
SECTION :	LETTRES		
EPREUVE :	ANGLAIS	DUREE : 2 h	COEFFICIENT : 2

I – READING COMPREHENSION (15 marks)

1. Evie Eaves, 97, recently earned her General Educational Development high school diploma. Her accomplishment was honoured by about 50 organizations at the Canyons Retirement Community, where she's been a resident for a few years. Born in Oklahoma in 1910, Evie went to school up through the eighth grade in rural Stevens County but would have had to travel seven miles to the nearest high school. Her parents didn't encourage education over working on the farm, so when her older brothers left the family to start their own lives, Evie had to work.

"My father had only one arm and didn't have any boys to help work on the farm, so I worked," said Evie.

2. Evie married at 17 and worked in cafés before giving birth to her only child at the age of 20. She was married for 62 years when her husband died in 1989. Eleven years later, relatives brought her to live at the Canyons Retirement Community because they didn't think she could live alone anymore. During a conversation with her great-granddaughter Coleen Reynolds, Evie said she was urged to study for and take the test to receive her GED. Evie had no self-confidence but Coleen kept saying: "You can do it, you can do it."

3. Evie took a big step earlier when she decided that, yes, she probably could do it. By studying on her own and with the help of relatives and friends, Evie scheduled to take five parts of GED exam at Amarillo College. Evie, who lives with macular degeneration – a vision disease – had to have some accommodations to be able to take the five tests that make up the GED. She got extra time to take the test and a companion to drive her each day to the college.

4. Evie was tested on writing, reading, math, social studies and science. "I enjoyed math the most", she said. "And for me, the hardest was general science." She had to score a minimum of 410 to attain her GED. Evie's lowest score on any of the tests was 450. She was surprised to learn that her highest grade, 510, came in her hardest subject – science.

"Now I can do anything", she said. She may have a lot of time to figure out what she wants to do next because longevity is in her genes – her oldest sister is 103.

Adapted from a report by Associated Press
November 15, 2007

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1) Match titles and paragraphs. Write the corresponding letters in the answers box. (4 marks)

Par	TITLE	Answers
1	a – Evie's exam results	1 →
2	b – Evie sits for the GED	2 →
3	c – Evie was prevented from pursuing her studies at school	3 →
4	d – Evie starts learning again	4 →

2) The following statements are false. Correct them with details from the text. (4 marks)

a) Evie's achievement went unnoticed. (paragraph 1)

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b) For Evie's parents, education was a top priority. (paragraph 1)

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c) No special measures were taken to help Evie sit for the exam. (paragraph 3)

.....

d) As it was very hard, Evie performed badly in science. (paragraph 4)

.....

3) Pick out two sentences from the text showing that (2 marks)

a) Evie's father was handicapped.

.....

b) People live long in Evie's family.

.....

4) What do the underlined words in paragraph 2 refer to ?(2 marks)

a) They refers to

b) You refers to

5) Find words that have the same meaning as : (2marks)

a) encouraged (paragraph 2) :

b) understand (paragraph 4) :

6) Would you do what Evie did if you were her age ? (1 mark)

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II – WRITING (15 marks)

1) Guided writing (5 marks)

Comment on the data in the chart in a five-line paragraph comparing the two countries. Focus on the similarities and the differences.

Countries	Adult literacy	Life expectancy	Income per capita
Japan	99.06 %	80.9 years	\$ 28,620
Kenya	85.1 %	47.8 years	\$ 1,100

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2) Free writing (10 marks)

Your civic education school club is organising a writing competition about the values and attitudes that foster good relationships between students. Write a 12-line article about the topic.

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III – LANGUAGE (10 marks)

1) Fill in the blanks with 7 words from the box. (3.5 marks)

innovations – resources – such – beyond – issues – sought – easier – throughout.

Today's consumption is undermining the environmental resource base. We consume a variety of resources and products that are (a) basic needs. They include luxury items and technological (b) helpful in improving efficiency. Such consumption is not a bad thing in itself, as (c)..... history, we have always (d) to find ways to make our lives a bit (e)..... to live. However, increasingly, important (f)..... around consumerism need to be addressed, (g) as the impacts of that process of production on the environment, society and individuals.

2) Supply the correct tense or form of the bracketed words. (3.5 marks)

We live, generally, in a world which we feel is ordered, But, occasionally, nature intervenes with a (to remind) (a) of just how fragile is the grip that we, (humanity) (b) , have on our planet. First came the Tsunami, the most deadly such event ever (to record) (c)..... . Next, ferocious hurricanes (to whip) (d)..... the south coast of the USA. Finally, came an earthquake of such terrible violence that it ripped open the Himalayas with a force comparable to the two (big) (e)..... quakes of the 20th century (kill) (f)..... 80,000 people and leaving an unimaginable 3 million people (home) (g)

3) Circle the correct alternative. (3 marks)

The Nobel Prize for literature is the dream of every novelist, poet and playwright. But do you know who (offered / granted / received) the 2007 Nobel Prize for literature ?

The British novelist, Doris Lessing has just (earned / won / required) it. She is 87 years old (in / to / at) present. She is best known for her novel, "The Golden Notebook", (was written / written / wrote) in 1962. The Swedish academy that (purchased / produced / awarded) her the Prize called her a heroine, (who / whose / whom) with doubt and creative power, has subjected a divided civilization to scrutiny.