

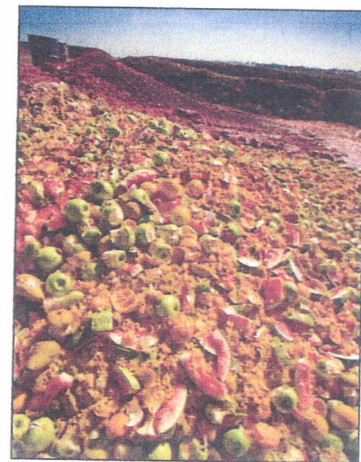
Epreuve orale

Examen de fin d'études secondaires 2013

Section: BCEF

Branche: ANGLAIS

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"I wish you'd called me sooner. I had to throw away a whole chicken I took from the freezer."

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Part Two: Reading Passages

a.

According to a report by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1.2 to 2 billion tonnes of produce never reaches a human stomach. The explanation is twofold. In the developing world, the losses are between the field and the marketplace, thanks to inefficient harvesting, poor storage and inadequate transportation. In the developed world, particularly in Britain and the US, it is just wasted. Up to 30% of the UK's vegetables are never harvested – rejected because of their size or appearance, or ploughed back owing to over-production.

b.

In British supermarkets, most food is packaged in quantities decided by the retailer – unlike in the rest of the world. In France, Denmark, the US or even Dubai, supermarket produce aisles are stocked almost exclusively with loose food. When shoppers choose their own quantities, they are more likely to get them right.

c.

Shoppers can take a few simple steps to reduce food waste. Embrace 'ugly' fruit and veg. Eat your leftovers. Treat use-by dates with scepticism: they're calculated by supermarkets which are quite reasonably terrified of poisoning their customers, and factor in the possibility that food might be left in hot cars for hours or stored in inadequate fridges.

Part Three: Discuss

- a. Despite recent price rises food is cheaper today than at any time in our history.
- b. Is food so cheap that we no longer treat it with sufficient respect?

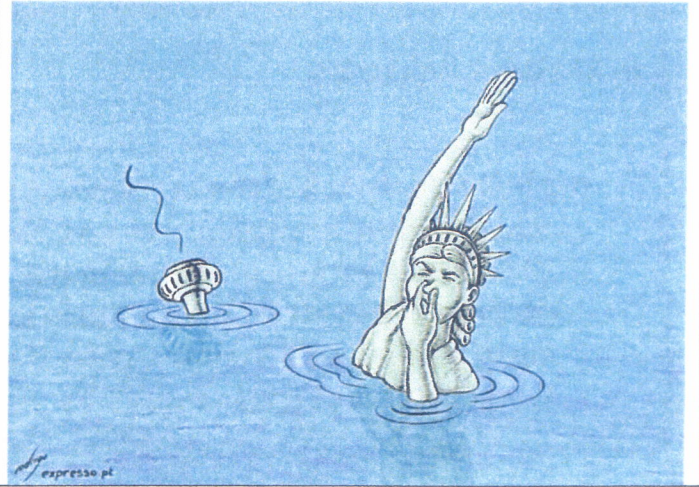
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I. PICTURES



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II. READING PASSAGES

1. Most scientists believe that human activity, in particular the burning of fossil fuels and the resulting buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, have influenced the warming trend on Earth. In the past decade scientists have documented record-high average annual surface temperatures and have been observing other signs of change all over the planet: in the distribution of ice, and in levels and temperatures of the oceans.
2. Drought affects our lives in many different ways because water is such an important part of so many of our activities. We need water to live, and animals and plants do too. We need water to grow the food we eat. We also use water for many different things in our lives, like washing dishes, cooking, bathing.
3. Rising sea level is a threat to people who live near the ocean. Some low-lying areas will have more frequent flooding, and very low-lying land could be submerged completely. Rising sea level can also harm important coastal ecosystems like mangrove forests and coral reefs. Additionally, there is a threat of extinction of several types of plants and animals which need and thrive only in the cold climate.

III. DISCUSSION

1. How can we help to reduce our own consumption of fossil fuels?
2. With such strong scientific consensus that global warming is real and is largely due to human activities, why is there so much controversy in the press and among the public?

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II. TEXTS

1. Nancy Lanza was a gun enthusiast and often took her sons to one of the shooting ranges. At a local bar she sometimes talked about her gun collection. It was one of her guns that was apparently used to take her life. Her killer was her son Adam, 20, who then drove to Sandy Hook Elementary School, where he killed 26 more people.

(The New York Times - December 8th, 2012)

2. After the shocking school shooting in Connecticut, Mr Obama announced 23 executive orders in January. These include strengthening the system of background checks (which is notoriously ineffective) and providing more support to law-enforcement agencies. Another order seeks to make schools safer by ensuring that each one has an emergency management plan (most of them, including the Newtown one, already do).

(The Economist - January 19th, 2013)

3. Most shockingly gun sales have soared in recent weeks. In the month since the Newtown shooting 250,000 more people have joined the National Rifle Association, which has vowed to oppose a ban. The group is getting so cocky that it launched a free shooting app this week. For an extra 99 cents, players can use a Mk11 sniper rifle to shoot coffin-shaped targets.

(The Economist - January 19th, 2013)

III. DISCUSSION

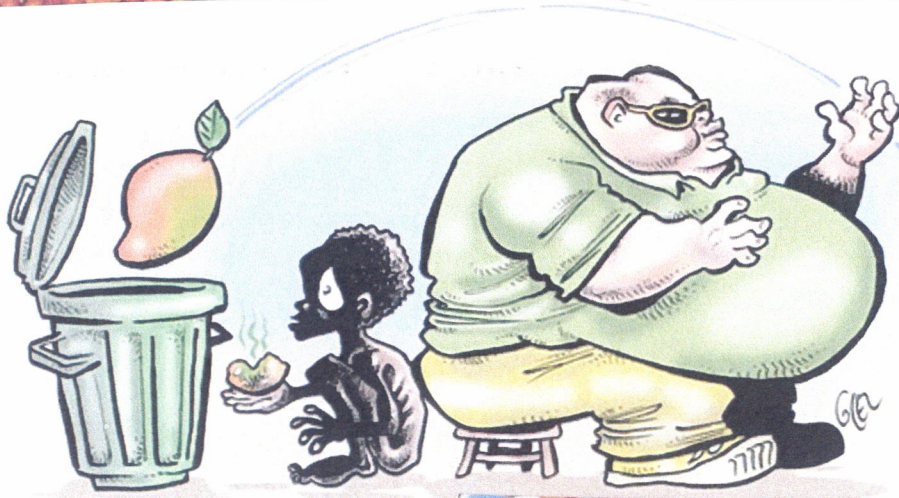
1. Why do tragedies like the one in Connecticut happen? Why do people go on a rampage?
2. How do you explain people's fascination with guns and/or violence?

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II) READING PASSAGES

1. As much as half of all the food produced in the world – equivalent to 2bn tonnes – ends up as waste every year. The UK's Institution of Mechanical Engineers blames the "staggering" new figures in its analysis on unnecessarily strict sell-by dates, buy-one-get-one-free offers and Western consumer demands for cosmetically perfect food, along with inadequate infrastructure and poor storage facilities.

www.guardian.co.uk, January 10, 2013

2. About 550bn cubic meters of water is wasted globally in growing crops that never reach the consumer. Carnivorous diets add extra pressure as it takes 20-50 times the amount of water to produce 1kg of meat than 1kg of vegetables; the demand for water in food production could reach 10-13 trillion cubic meters a year by 2050.

www.guardian.co.uk, January 10, 2013

3. Tim Fox, head of energy and environment at the IMechE, said: "The amount of food wasted and lost around the world is staggering. This is food that could be used to feed the world's growing population – as well as those in hunger today. It is also an unnecessary waste of the land, water and energy resources that were used in the production, processing and distribution of this food."

www.guardian.co.uk, January 10, 2013

III) DISCUSSION TASKS

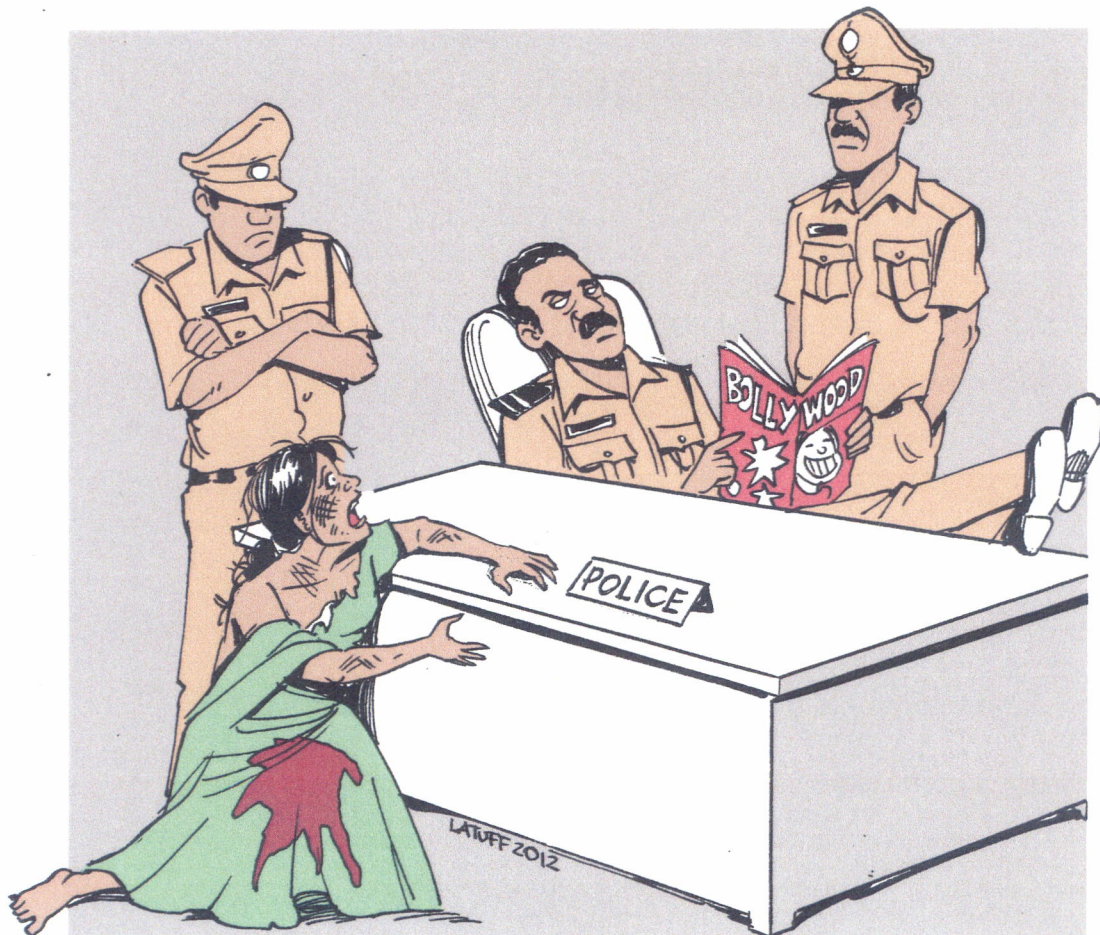
1. What would you do to tackle famines in the Third World?
2. "Our food is not natural and we don't know where it comes from." Discuss.

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II. Reading Passages

- a. The problem in India stands compounded because law enforcement is weak and you can commit a variety of crimes and get away with it, most of the times, even if you are neither rich nor powerful. Although the high and mighty also get booked and hauled up from time to time, the situation in general is that you can bribe your way through or use political influence if hauled by some authority for a violation. The general perception is that you can commit a crime and get away with it, all the more if you are in a gang.
- b. India dramatically tightened its laws on sexual assault, with a far-reaching package of measures rushed through to satisfy public opinion in the wake of the horrific gang rape and murder of a young woman in Delhi. Women's groups complained that the government had not gone far enough, particularly because it failed to outlaw marital rape and deal with the legal impunity enjoyed by members of the armed forces. But other activists said the new measures, which imposed much stricter penalties for a range of crimes, marked one of the most significant changes to India's laws protecting women.
- c. Even though it is illegal in India for a doctor to reveal the gender of an unborn child, the law is rarely enforced. Over the past 20 years, it has been estimated that some 10 million female fetuses have been aborted. Girls are unwanted because they are seen as a financial burden. Landholdings can pass to in-laws and dowries, which themselves are illegal, siphon money from families.

III. Discussion Tasks

1. Why do so many rape cases remain unpunished?
2. What could be done to promote the position of women in Indian society?
3. Is there still a need to promote the position of women in Europe?

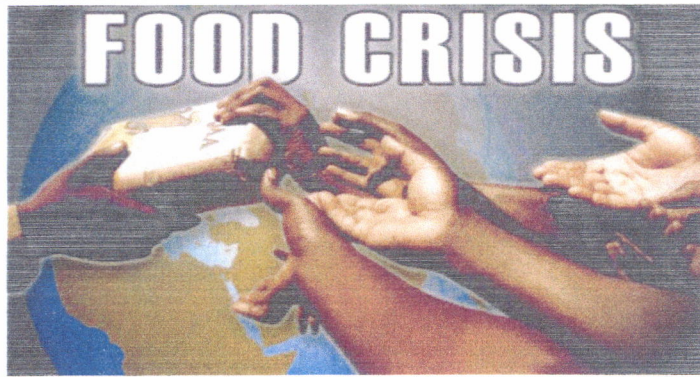
Epreuve écrite

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II. Passages :

1. 30-50% of all the food produced in the world is wasted. 1.2 to 2 billion tonnes of produce never reaches a human stomach. In the developed world, particularly in Britain and the US, 'we just waste it'. Up to 30% of the UK's vegetables are never harvested – rejected because of their size or appearance, or ploughed back owing to over-production. Further down the line, a vast amount is thrown away - £10bn-worth each year in Britain, or £480 per average household.
2. Much of the blame for this 'obscene' situation rests with the supermarkets, which 'frustrate efforts to be careful', said Rose Prince in the Daily Telegraph. Consumers don't ask for 'Bogof' deals that give them 12 sticky bus for the price of six, or bumper packs of chicken joints of which they never eat more than half because the 'best before' date comes too quickly. In British supermarkets, most food is packaged in quantities decided by the retailer – unlike in the rest of the world.
3. Maybe there's a much more deep-seated problem, said The Observer : perhaps food is 'simply too cheap'. Despite recent price rises, it is cheaper than at any time in our history. In 1950, we spent around 25% of our money on food and drink. Now we spend 10%, less than any other country in Europe. The UK's supermarkets – with their 'eternal price wars', 'risibly' low wages for staff, and harsh contracts for farmers and producers – have driven prices so low that ~~that~~ we don't treat food with sufficient respect.

II. Tasks :

1. Without restoring a sense of the real value of food, how will we stop wasting it ?
2. What simple steps can the individual take to reduce food waste ?
3. Do you worry about what you eat and where your food comes from ?

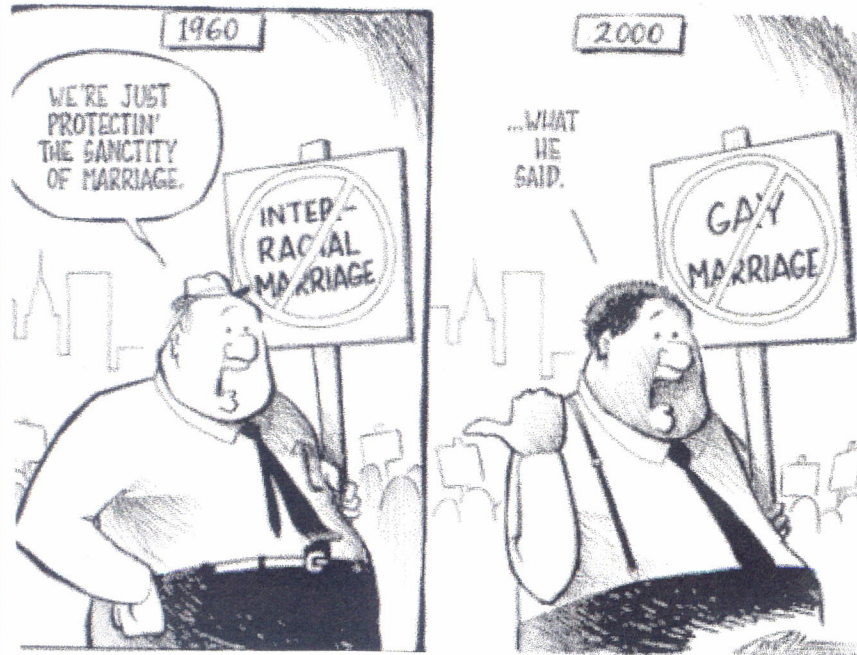
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II. TEXTS:

1. In the original interview with ITV Wales, Mr Jones, Welsh secretary, said the institution of marriage was meant to provide "a warm and safe environment for the upbringing of children, which is clearly something that two same-sex partners can't do." He later clarified: "I simply sought to point out that, since same-sex partners could not biologically procreate children, the institution of marriage was one that, in my opinion, should be reserved to opposite sex partners."
2. The quiet, 73-year-old mayor of a village deep in Brittany's heartland, is likely to feel the pressures of both church and state in a matter of weeks. As a retired Roman Catholic priest who still conducts the occasional Mass, he will bow to a church that adamantly opposes same-sex unions. But as mayor of this farming village deep in Brittany's heartland, Elie Geffray is willing to conduct civil marriage ceremonies for gay and lesbian couples.
3. Britain's most senior Muslim MP has received death threats after voting in favour of gay marriage. Police have told Sadiq Khan, Labour's Shadow Justice Secretary, that the threats are credible enough that he should review the security around him and his family following the Commons vote. Officers in his Tooting constituency in London have been put on high alert, and will respond 'extra-quick' should an incident be reported at his home.

III. DISCUSSION:

1. Social conservatives seem to see a bigger threat to marriage from committed gay couples who want in on it than from straight ones who opt out of it. Discuss.
2. "You know, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender – people are people." *Judith Light (American actress)*

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II) READING PASSAGES

1. The most inspiring story of the 2012 London Olympic Games is of a woman who finished her 100m heat in less than 15 seconds after eight years of convincing her family and her nation that it was OK for a Muslim woman to leave the house and run as fast as her conviction would take her.

The Guardian Weekly, 17 August 2012

2. "My coach fought other men outside the stadium where I train because they do not think I should run. But my country will remember me for ever one day. They will see I am the right one. Other girls will watch me and I will tell them, 'Come, run with me,'" said Tahmina Kohistani, Afghanistan's only woman at the Games, in the halting English she had learned through mail-order language courses.

The Guardian Weekly, 17 August 2012

3. These were good Olympic games for sporting ethos. London 2012's greatest milestone was the equality, and in some respects the superiority, of women's participation. No national team was male-only, for the first time. Though Saudi Arabia's Wojdan Shaherkani lasted a mere 80 seconds in the women's judo competition, her appearance was a symbolic breakthrough.

The Guardian, 13 August 2012

III) DISCUSSION TASKS

1. Should parents pressure their children to excel in their sports?
2. What traits should one have to become a good sportsman / woman?
3. "Participating in team sports helps to develop good character." Discuss.

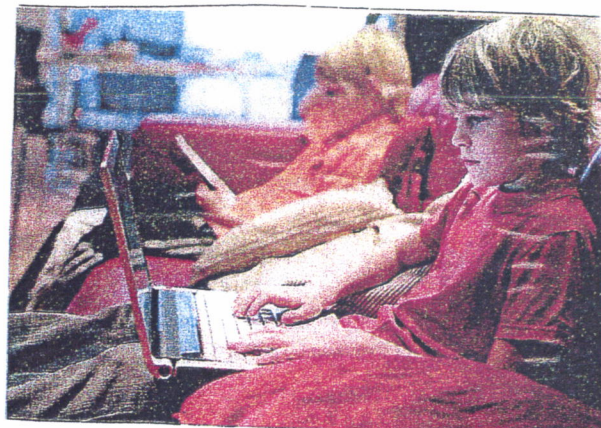
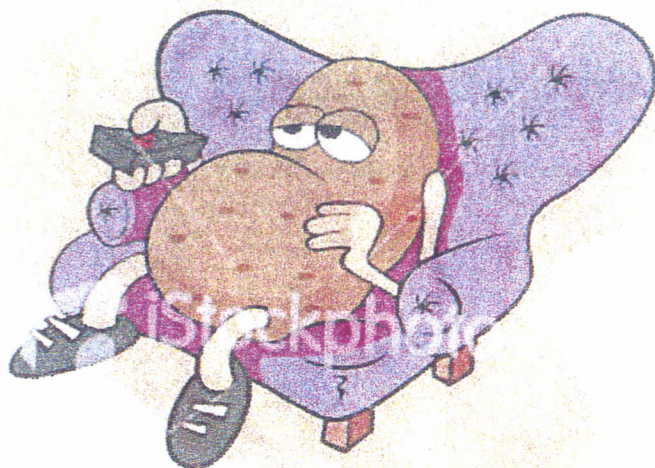
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II. READING PASSAGES

1. Childhood pastimes are increasingly moving indoors. The lure of TV and video games isn't the only thing keeping kids indoors. Parents are more afraid of letting kids roam freely in a world of heavy traffic and reports of paedophiles and missing children.

2. Most outdoor games involve physical activities. This helps burn extra fat. So, playing outdoor games helps to prepare a physically strong and healthy body. The energy level of children will increase. They will be much stronger to fight external germs and will also benefit from a psychological point of view.

3. 'Boundaries for kids used to be measured by blocks or miles. Now, the boundary for most kids is the front yard. A lot of kids are under house arrest,' says Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods*, a book about how children have lost touch with nature.

III. DISCUSSION

1. Village kids have much more freedom than children growing up in cities.

2. Does our children's obsession with the new media risk turning them into socially autistic beings ?

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II. Reading Passages

- 1) The bullfighting industry often cites that bullfighting brings in important revenue to local towns and regions. It is, however, important to remember that tourists will visit Spain with or without bullfighting: tourists don't go to Spain in order to specifically watch a bullfight. In fact, due to the modern concept of 'ethical travelling', more tourists are more likely to visit Spain, Portugal or the South of France when bullfighting no longer exists there.
- 2) Our knowledge of the psychological and physical welfare of animals has vastly improved during the last 100 years. The way bulls are treated during bullfights is contrary to the values of animal welfare usual in any modern society. We now know that bulls – like other mammals – are sentient beings capable of feeling pain and suffering. The claims that the bull grows in combat and in fact enjoys being tortured and killed in a bullring defy reason.
- 3) Bullfighting is part of the Spanish identity; the bull leads a pampered life until it enters the ring (where it will die within 20 minutes) and therefore receives better treatment than the millions of animals, fattened for mass consumption; the bull is so driven by adrenaline that it doesn't really suffer; the bullfighting supports a \$2 billion industry employing over 100,000 people; the breeding of the bulls benefits the environment because it protects land that might otherwise fall to urban development or golf courses.

III. Discussion

- 1) Killing animals is always murder – whether it is for entertainment or for food.
- 2) 'The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.' (*Ghandi*)

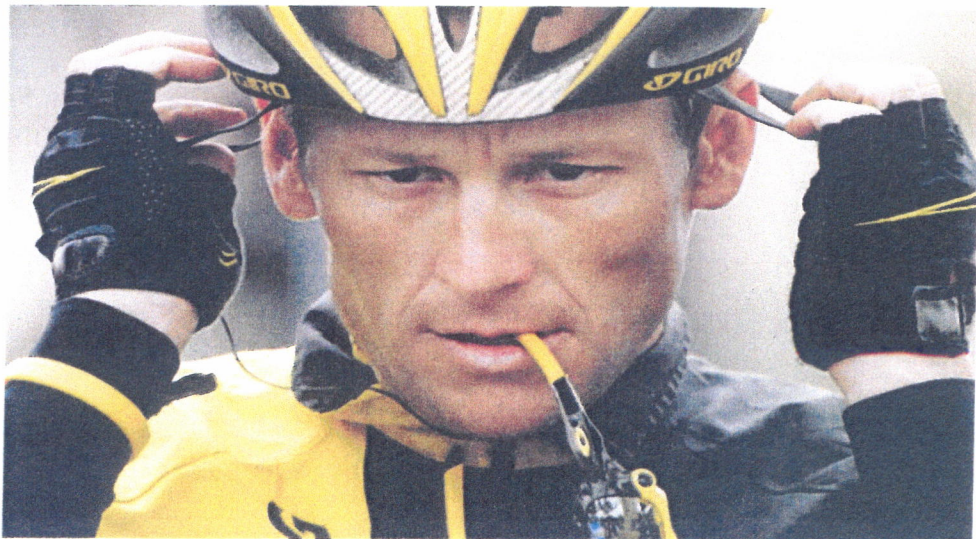
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I. PICTURES



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II. READING PASSAGES

1. His goal [of winning the Tour de France] led him to depend on EPO, testosterone and blood transfusions but also, more ruthlessly, to expect and to require that his team-mates would likewise use drugs to support his goals if not their own. It was not enough that his team-mates give maximum effort on the bike, he also required that they adhere to the doping programme outlined for them or be replaced.
2. "Drugs are unnatural" claim the objectors to doping (even though many doping substances are naturally found in the human body). Rather than being a contest between persons and their athletic skills, sports contests between doped athletes are likely to be transformed into struggles between the best medically and technologically administered body.
3. Consumption of too many drugs will lead to aggression and anxiety. For females especially, they will seem to develop more male characteristics. For males, too much aggression may lead to murdering or doing illegal things to satisfy or relieve the surge of immense anger. Anxiety also plays a part by making the athletes paranoid over small and trivial matters.

III. DISCUSSION

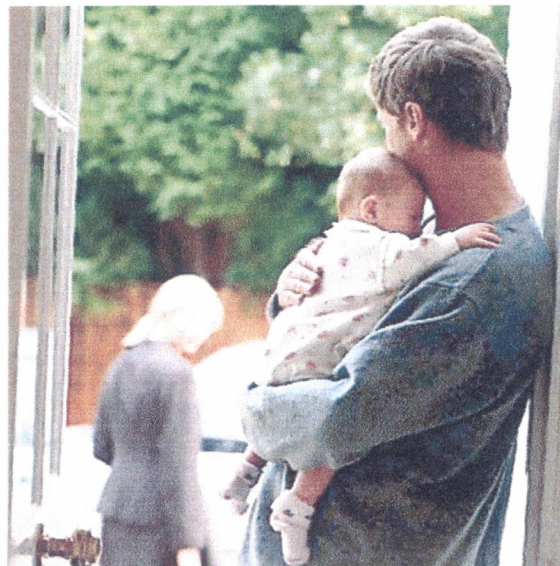
1. Should we allow athletes to use drugs?
2. No result in any elite sport can be trusted with reasonable certainty to have been achieved without performance-enhancing drugs. Discuss.

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II. TEXTS

1. Women make up the majority of university graduates in the OECD countries and the majority of professional workers in several rich countries. Yet women are still under-represented at the top of companies. They are also paid significantly less than men on average. Juggling work and childrearing is difficult.

2. Men are conditioned not to allow their lack of confidence to stifle their progress. They don't allow their lack of experience to get in the way either. Women must feel that they are entirely prepared for a job and that they have ticked all the boxes. They just take longer to accept that they're ready for the next rung on the ladder.

3. Women aren't promoted because they don't apply for promotion: they don't want the longer hours, bringing more strain and more stress. They don't want that extra responsibility because they already have enough responsibility as a mother. Women want a secure home and a good work-life balance, but most men don't think like that.

III. Discussion

1. Men as househusbands are unfulfilled. Life is a misery for them, their wives and their marriages.
2. The need to feel useful is universal, but for men and women that need is met differently.

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Part II: Reading passages

1. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, food waste is the second largest waste stream in the United States, trailing only paper waste. It accounted for 14.1 percent of all municipal-generated solid waste in 2009. The agency said in 2009, 34 million tons of food waste was generated and 97 percent of this was thrown away in landfills or incinerated. The EPA also said that “much” of this food is wholesome, safe food that could potentially feed millions of people.
2. There are many consequences to our national habit of sending food to landfills. Food waste has significant environmental, economic, and cultural ramifications. Wasting food squanders time, energy, and resources, for both money and oil is used to produce that food. Increasingly, great amounts of fossil fuel are used to fertilize, apply pesticides to, harvest, and process food. Still more gas is spent transporting food from farm to processor, wholesaler to restaurant, store to households — and finally, from the garbage bins to the landfill.
3. Up to 50% of edible and healthy food gets wasted in EU households, supermarkets, restaurants and along the food supply chain each year, while 79 million EU citizens live beneath the poverty line and 16 million depend on food aid from charitable institutions. Parliament called in a resolution for urgent measures to halve food waste by 2025 and to improve access to food for needy EU citizens.

Part III: Discussion

- 1) To what extent do you care about what you eat and where your food comes from?
- 2) How can we avoid wasting food?

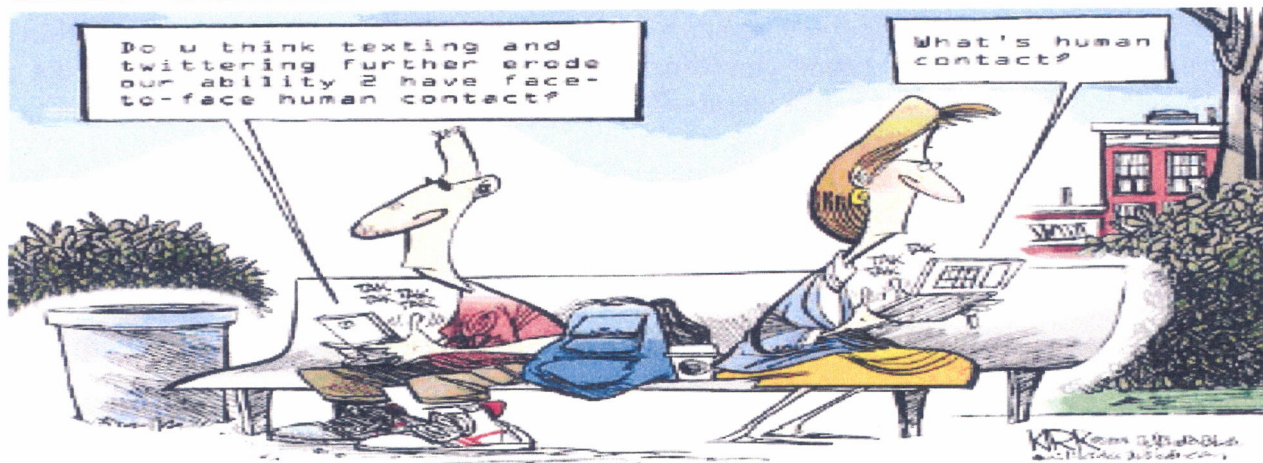
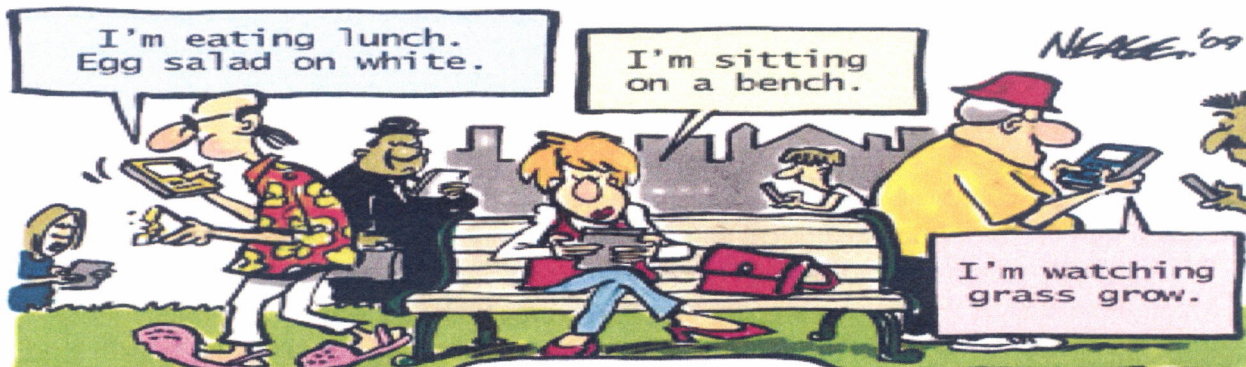
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PART I: Visual Prompts



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PART II: Texts

- a) We lead hectic, multi-tasking lives both at home and in the workplace these days and we find the need for balance even more critical than in days gone by. We understand that technology can be impersonal, but it's quick! We know we need to make time for more people-to-people connections but, the reality of the hectic pace doesn't leave us much time for this more intimate form of communication. You may be thinking, isn't it much faster to make a quick phone call, send a brief e-mail, or hook up via video-conferencing to have a meeting of the minds? Yes and no. It's a communications paradox...faster is not always better.
- b) We need to get the balance right! People-to-people communication skills remain one of the primary success factors in business, even in this age of technology. There are many situations - often those involving conflict, hurt feelings, high priority, or a large sum of money - that demand business people take the time and trouble to get in the same room to share information. Video-conferencing has become a good simulation and cost-effective method when individuals are in remote locations, but there is still no substitute for good, old-fashioned, face-to-face communication.

PART III : Discussion

1. How can we make the best of both worlds – technology and face-to-face communication ?
2. Do you agree that face-to-face communication remains the most powerful human interaction ?
3. The scourge of modern society is our dependence on electronic communication devices!
Discuss !

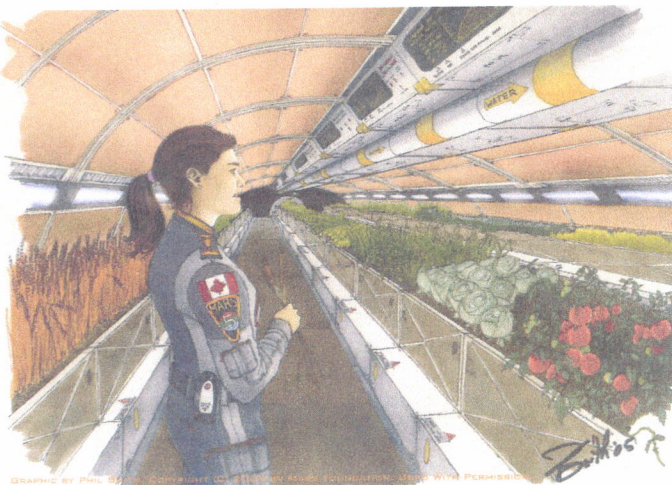
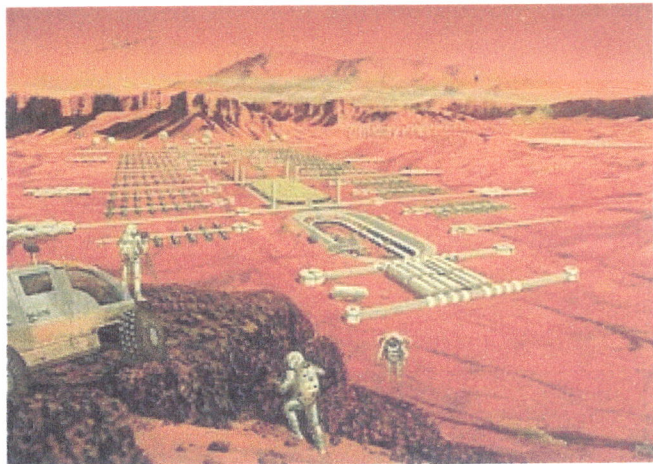
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I. Visual Input



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II. Reading Passages

- 1) The first 24 candidates will be selected by a global vote, as part of a reality TV show that will help raise money through the project. The show will feature everything from astronaut training, through to first arrival on Mars to the beginning of work on the red planet. If the applicants are anything like the contestants on reality shows like Big Brother, then mankind has a lot to fear.

(www.news.com.au)

- 2) Why are we so interested in bringing the Mars astronauts home again? [...] Colonists and pilgrims seldom set off for the New World with the expectation of a return trip, usually because the places they were leaving were pretty intolerable anyway. Give us a century or two and we may turn the whole planet into a place from which many people might be happy to depart.

(www.nytimes.com)

- 3) If necessity is the mother of invention, Mars will be the cradle of a new civilization. A frontier society based on technological excellence and pragmatism, populated by people with personal drive, will be a hotbed of invention, and the competition that would ensue would force the Earth population to strive to keep up. This process of rejuvenation is one of the best reasons to colonize Mars.

(library.thinkquest.org)

III. Discussion

Reaching for the stars (or other planets) is ridiculous when there are so many problems on planet Earth.

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Part II: Reading passages

1. Attendance at the Raleigh gun show was high as gun enthusiasts mark 'Gun Appreciation Day,' a pro-Second Amendment reaction to what they perceive as the Obama administration's assault on gun rights. Gun-loving Americans are urged to visit gun stores and shooting ranges to protest the administration's willingness to take steps to reduce gun violence in the wake of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting that killed 27 people, including 20 young children, in Newtown, Connecticut.
2. In 1966, Charles Whitman killed 16 people from "the Tower" at the University of Texas. Nothing changed. In 1999, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold massacred 13 at Columbine High School in Colorado. Nothing changed. In 2007, 32 dead at Virginia Tech. Nothing changed. Twelve killed in Aurora this summer. Nothing changed. Now, 20 children senselessly murdered in Newtown, Conn. Nothing will change.
3. Many gun owners (the loud ones and the quiet ones) fundamentally reject the premise that the government is capable of protecting its citizens, and they chafe at the suggestion that they should trust anyone else to protect their spouses, children, and mothers from monsters like the one who gunned down 20 helpless children in Connecticut. They view the world as a state of nature in which a fellow can only rely on himself for protection.

Part III: Discussion

- 1) How do you define self-defence? Where do you draw the line?
- 2) We live in a world where our personal freedom becomes more and more restricted.