

C O N C O U R S A T S
-SESSION 2015-

É P R E U V E D ' A N G L A I S

CODE ÉPREUVE : 960

Dictionnaire et appareils électroniques interdits

Réponse juste : +3

Réponse fausse : -1

Pas de réponse : 0

DURÉE DE L'ÉPREUVE : 2H

I. Grammar and Vocabulary**Find the best answer for each question.**

- 1) "If you _____ on every single point, let's sign the contract right away!"
a) are agree b) agree c) were agree d) is agree
- 2) "Wait _____ us, so we can arrive there together!"
a) at b) by c) for d) on
- 3) "What kind of music do you listen _____?"
a) \emptyset b) for c) away d) to
- 4) This conversation may be _____.
a) recording b) record c) recorded d) records
- 5) How many _____ would you like to have?
a) childs b) child c) childrens d) children
- 6) The company _____ to update its operating system.
a) need b) needs c) should d) ought to
- 7) I would really like to _____ this piece of news again.
a) hear b) heard c) hears d) ear
- 8) He finds _____ hard _____ speak foreign languages.
a) \emptyset / to b) it / to c) you / \emptyset d) it / \emptyset
- 9) You will have to look for your birthday present because it has been _____.
a) hid b) hide c) hiden d) hidden
- 10) You can find anything _____ internet.
a) to b) in c) on the d) upon
- 11) If you _____ in my shoes, I guess you would understand me better.
a) are b) was c) were d) will be
- 12) I _____ not really know what reply I could give.
a) am b) will c) do d) won't
- 13) Would you like to go _____ China next summer?
a) to b) in c) forward d) back
- 14) Child prodigies are marked not so much by their skills _____ by the fact that these skills are fully developed at an early age.
a) as b) than c) so much than d) rather than

- 32) Some objects are malleable _____ others are so brittle they break easily.
 a) which b) like c) while d) there
- 33) Late nineteenth century French artists tried _____ transitory impressions.
 a) to capture b) capture it c) captures d) to capture it
- 34) No one is certain about _____ causes booms and depressions in our economy.
 a) which b) how c) what d) why
- 35) An ultrasonic wave has _____ a high frequency that is not audible.
 a) therefore b) many c) so d) such
- 36) A lot of music critics see Ella Fitzgerald as the _____ of all jazz musicians.
 a) most greatest b) most great c) greatest d) greater
- 37) She stopped _____ when she heard the explosion.
 a) from talking b) on talking c) to talk d) talking
- 38) He scolded her as if she _____ a child.
 a) be b) was c) had been d) were
- 39) I look forward to _____ again.
 a) meet you b) be meeting you c) meeting you d) to be to meet
- 40) One in every two new businesses _____ within a few months.
 a) fail b) fails c) to fail d) failing
- 41) You will get used to _____ ideas with others .
 a) exchange b) have exchanged c) be exchanging d) exchanging
- 42) India is a country with around 122 regional languages, _____.
 a) whom 22 have official recognition c) 22 of which are officially recognized
 b) of whom 22 have official recognition d) 22 have official recognition
- 43) Throughout Maine _____ summer music camps, where young adults may study.
 a) is where b) to be found c) located are d) there are
- 44) As an atom absorbs energy, _____ increases and the atom is said to be excited.
 a) its energy level b) the energy level of its c) as its energy level d) it is energy level
- 45) New York City _____ the capital of New York State until 1797, when Albany took its place.
 a) has been b) was c) has to be d) being
- 46) Hot air accompanied by high relative humidity generally feels warmer than _____.
 a) actually it is b) is it actually c) is actually d) it actually is
- 47) _____ other big cats, leopards are said to be expert climbers.
 a) The most unlike b) They are unlike most c) Unlike the most d) Unlike
- 48) It is definitely no use _____ all the time.
 a) keeping silent b) to be keeping silent c) to keep silent d) to keeping

- 65) There were too few people _____ in the town, so they did not open a restaurant there.
 a) lived b) living c) to live d) who did not live
- 66) The number of British people on holiday abroad exceeded the number of tourists _____ a few years ago.
 a) arrived b) had arrived c) were arriving d) arriving
- 67) The total deficit amounts to four hundred _____ euros.
 a) millions b) of millions of c) million d) millions of
- 68) As she opened the door, her husband asked where _____.
 a) she was going b) she went c) she will go d) her going
- 69) So many questions were asked _____ some, which were very difficult.
 a) comprising b) including c) included d) comprised
- 70) The situation is bad enough _____ it is, without that accident.
 a) as b) like c) how d) so
- 71) It was time to get _____, so they started packing their luggage.
 a) to go b) gone c) go d) going
- 72) They left _____ home after work.
 a) at b) for c) to d) by
- 73) Martin, _____ eyes were blinded by the glare, saw a disk.
 a) whose b) which c) that d) whom
- 74) _____ they could see was amazing.
 a) Which b) This c) What d) Whose
- 75) He was asked to obey _____ his father.
 a) to b) at c) with d) Ø
- 76) Books may be borrowed for periods of _____ two weeks and no longer.
 a) over b) up to c) to d) until
- 77) For starters he had _____ snails.
 a) dozen b) a dozen of c) dozens d) a dozen
- 78) The match was soccer _____ spectacular.
 a) of its most b) at its most c) at most d) most
- 79) The new system is expected to reach a quarter of the homes in Britain in _____ years.
 a) next b) the few next c) the next few d) next to a few
- 80) We all live in a _____ society.
 a) consumer b) consumer's c) consumers' d) consumers
- 81) Despite what they say, the new plan is in fact similar _____ the former one.
 a) than b) to c) that d) from

- 82) The waiter asked the diners if he _____ the meal straight away.
 a) would serve b) was going to serve c) was serving d) should serve
- 83) How well do you know what her voice sounds _____?
 a) do b) like c) to d) are
- 84) The match started at 3 o'clock and _____.
 a) is still going on b) always goes on c) continued since d) yet has continued
- 85) Would the UN be _____ off without OPEC?
 a) good or bad b) better or worse c) best or worst d) more or less
- 86) The answer to the problem, when _____, will bring great relief to many.
 a) found b) having been found c) it will be found d) it is being found
- 87) _____ too much of people and they become irritable.
 a) Asking b) To ask c) Asked d) Ask
- 88) He says the scale of the problem is immense _____ worse.
 a) so as to get b) that may be getting c) but it gets d) and getting
- 89) Several months _____ the crisis, they still hadn't negotiated an end it.
 a) after b) into c) from d) in
- 90) She telephoned from New York asking what I _____ enjoyed doing.
 a) at most b) at the most c) most d) at the very most
- 91) They were not sure _____ to treat the merger idea seriously or not.
 a) if b) how c) whether d) about
- 92) _____ with the red flowers are _____ I prefer.
 a) The ones / they b) Those / the ones c) Those / that d) The ones / that
- 93) _____ she not found that way, she _____ have found another.
 a) Should / could b) Has / would c) Has / could d) Had / might
- 94) The article attacked British policy in _____ was later considered part of a campaign to undermine the Government.
 a) which b) what c) that which d) that
- 95) They must think it is the _____ of two evils.
 a) lesser b) less c) least d) latter
- 96) The European Union can _____ be expected to curb its growing aerospace industry.
 a) hardly b) ever c) hard d) nor
- 97) It apparently never occurred to the authorities that the people would mind, _____ protest.
 a) far from b) without c) not to d) much less
- 98) He'd rather she _____ anything at the meeting tomorrow.
 a) doesn't say b) didn't say c) won't say d) hasn't said

- 99) The prisoners _____ on the run for 3 weeks, when they were finally caught by the police.
a) been b) have been c) had been d) would have been
- 100) You should _____ your sister _____ you with your work.
a) get/ to help b) ask/ helps c) make/ to help d) get/ help

II. Reading Comprehension

Read the following texts carefully and choose the answer that best corresponds to the text.

Text 1

Why are we so eager to embrace conspiracy theories?

A staggering number of people believe the unbelievable. How should we respond, ask two political scientists

THE world is awash with conspiracy theories: Malaysia Airlines flight 17 was __101__ by the CIA; drug companies are __102__ the release of natural cures for cancer; Queen Elizabeth is part of a secret plot to control the world.

Most pundits dismiss such theories as the ravings of a paranoid fringe. Some claim they are cranks who pose a serious risk to society. The evidence, __103__, reveals a more nuanced picture.

__104__ the past eight years, we __105__ people in the US their views about conspiracy theories. We find three important facts.

First, the theories are __106__ endorsed. At any given time, at least half of Americans agree with one or more of the common ones.

Second, adherence is common __107__ the population. __108__ racial minorities and the less-educated embrace them more readily, educated whites also subscribe __109__ them.

Third, conspiracy theories are embraced across the ideological spectrum. More conservatives __110__ liberals believe that Barack Obama fabricated his birth certificate, but plenty of liberals believe 9/11 was an inside job. Some conspiracies are equally appealing to the left and right.

As researchers, the interesting question to us is not whether these theories are right or wrong, but why so __111__ people endorse them in the face of overwhelming evidence. We think the answer lies in human psychology.

The brain did not evolve __112__ process information about industrial economies, terrorism or medicine, but about survival in the wild. This includes a tendency to assume that __113__ predators are lurking or that coincidental events are somehow related. (...) In short, to adherents, conspiracy theories feel like the truth.

It is this that **114** them problematic. By crystallising intuitions **115** incontrovertible claims, they limit possibilities for public discourse. This might not be a problem if the conspiracy involves aliens. But when it comes to important issues **116** gun control or vaccinations, conspiracy theories impede our ability to sustain public debate.

117, rather than trying to argue or reason, the first step should be to empathise. After all, **118** knocking on wood or wishing someone luck, we all engage in magical thinking. Only by appreciating the emotional tug of conspiracy theories **119** possible for **120** to communicate in a meaningful way with our neighbours in tinfoil hats.

22 December 2014 by Eric Oliver and Tom Wood

- 101)** a) found b) diverted c) diverting d) finding
- 102)** a) helped b) prevented c) helping d) preventing
- 103)** a) while b) thus c) however d) despite
- 104)** a) for b) since c) that d) Ø
- 105)** a) asked b) have been asking c) ask d) have been asked
- 106)** a) widest b) wide c) wider d) widely
- 107)** a) across b) out of c) at d) of
- 108)** a) Because b) In spite of c) Although d) However
- 109)** a) at b) to c) with d) for
- 110)** a) like b) that c) than d) as
- 111)** a) lot b) much c) many d) several
- 112)** a) by b) with c) to d) along
- 113)** a) unseeing b) seeing c) unseen d) seen
- 114)** a) does b) involves c) carries out d) makes
- 115)** a) to b) into c) in d) with
- 116)** a) such as b) so c) similarly d) as

- 117) a) Thus b) Similarly c) However d) Whatsoever
- 118) a) whether b) neither c) and d) if not
- 119) a) it will be b) it is c) will it be d) is it
- 120) a) we b) us c) ourselves d) ours

Text 2

Cleaner than what?

Why an electric car may be much dirtier than a petrol one

DRIVING an electric car confers a badge of greenery, or so the marketing departments of their makers would have you believe. Yet a report which analyses the life cycle of car emissions (ie, all the way from those created by the mining of materials for batteries, via the ones from the production of fuel and the generation of electricity, to the muck that actually comes out of the exhaust) presents a rather different picture. A battery-powered car recharged with electricity generated by coal-fired power stations, it found, is likely to cause more than three times as many deaths from pollution as a conventional petrol-driven vehicle. Even a battery car running on the average mix of electrical power generated in America is much more hazardous than the conventional alternative.

Christopher Tessum, Jason Hill and Julian Marshall of the University of Minnesota have just published this study in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. They estimate how levels of fine particulate matter and ground-level ozone—two important constituents of air pollution, which kills more than 100,000 people a year in America—would change if each of 11 ways of powering a car were to be responsible for 10% of the vehicle-miles expected to be driven in America in 2020.

It was no surprise that electric cars whose batteries were topped up from wind, solar or hydroelectric sources came out cleanest, causing 231 putative deaths over the course of a year, compared with 878 for petrol cars. Electric cars recharged with power from natural-gas-fired stations were also a lot less lethal than petrol-driven ones, with 439 deaths. But if those same electric cars were recharged ultimately by coal, they would be responsible, according to the model, for just over 3,000 deaths. Biofuels also caused more health problems than petrol. But diesel, which is generating concern about pollution in parts of Europe, where it is a more popular fuel than in America, was marginally cleaner than petrol. This is because the Minnesota model assumes for all cars that present and future emission-control technologies will be more widely used in 2020, especially particulate filters which have a marked effect on cleaning diesel exhausts. Diesel cars also have better fuel economy than petrol-driven ones.

Overall, the research shows that electric cars are cleaner than those that rely on internal-combustion engines only if the power used to charge them is also clean. That is hardly a surprise, but the magnitude of the difference is. How green electric cars really are, then, will depend mainly on where they are driven. In France, which obtains more than half its power from nuclear stations, they look like a good bet. In China—which is keen on electric cars, but produces some 80% of its electricity from coal—rather less so.

Dec 20th 2014, the Economist

121) Which do carmakers advocate as the greenest cars?

- a) electric cars b) fuel-powered cars c) diesel cars d) biofuel-powered cars

122) According to the report, where does the pollution come from mostly?

- a) coal-powered batteries b) electricity-powered batteries c) conventional petrol d) US fuel mix

123) What does “ie” stand for in line 2?

- a) internet explorer b) international education c) international engine d) id est

124) What kills over 100,000 people a year in America?

- a) fine particulate matters b) ground level ozone c) coal-fired power station d) air pollution

125) What is the least environmentally-friendly source of power for electric cars?

- a) biofuels b) coal c) natural gas d) sun

126) Which other recharging source is more problematic than petrol?

- a) biofuels b) diesel c) natural gas d) wind

127) How do some European countries feel about diesel?

- a) marginal b) clean c) worried d) common

128) What is most surprising according to the author?

- a) the power used to charge electric car batteries is essential
b) electric cars are less polluting than conventional cars
c) the difference between the various sources used
d) diesel cars will be cleaner in 2020

129) Where could electric cars cause more deaths according to this study?

- a) in China b) in Minnesota c) in America d) in France

Text 3

Robot jurisprudence: How to judge a 'bot

WHEN the autonomous cars in Isaac Asimov's 1953 short story "Sally" encourage a robotic bus to dole out some rough justice to an unscrupulous businessman, it appears that the bus has contravened Asimov's first law of robotics, which states that "a robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm".

Asimov's three laws are merely a bit of science fiction that is often taken to be a serious basis for robot governance. But robotic devices raise many thorny legal, ethical and regulatory questions. For instance, if an autonomous car is involved in an accident, who is to blame? And bionic technologies that enhance or become part of humans are trickier still. If an assistive exoskeleton is implicated in a death, who is at fault? If a brain-computer interface is used to communicate with someone in a vegetative state, are those messages legally binding?

It was questions such as these that led to the setting up in 2012 of a project called RoboLaw, largely funded by the European Union. Consisting of experts in areas such as law, engineering, philosophy, regulation and medicine, the group presented their report, called "Guidelines on Regulating Robotics", to a special session of the European Parliament in September. The report's recommendations are designed to help legislators successfully manage the introduction of new robotic and human-enhancement technologies into society without compromising principles already enshrined in European law.

The report's authors warn against "excessively restrictive" legislation that can stifle innovation. They recommend a "functional perspective" that concentrates on the practical use of robotics when drawing up any robot-specific laws. Broad, overarching legislation—such as Asimov's three laws—is likely to fail, says Andrea Bertolini, of the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, in Pisa, Italy, which led the RoboLaw group. Instead, ad hoc legislation could be used to steer the development of the market in specific directions. That is an important suggestion when the term "robot" covers such a diversity of devices, from medical equipment to drones and vacuum cleaners.

Stringent product-safety rules, for example, might discourage development of advanced prostheses and exoskeletons, a set of technologies that the European Union is keen to support. Liability exemptions for manufacturers could relieve some pressure. "No-fault" plans, especially in cases where an insurance market for robotic devices is difficult to establish, could help too. Manufacturers and governments might pay into a compensation fund to be used if mishaps occur.

Prostheses also raise questions about the legal distinction between person and property, but the report suggests that there is no advantage to creating a new category between human and machine. As Dr Bertolini puts it: "A human with a prosthesis is still a human."

Dec 6th 2014

130) Which is false according to Asimov?

- a) A robot cannot injure a human being
- b) A robot might not injure a human being
- c) A robot can injure a human being
- d) A robot may injure a human being

131) In “Asimov’s three laws are merely a bit of science-fiction”, which is closest in meaning to “merely”?

- a) merrily
- b) simply
- c) seriously
- d) admittedly

132) Where are the answers given to questions raised by robotic and bionic technologies?

- a) In Isaac Asimov’s 3 laws
- b) In a report
- c) in Robolaw
- d) in European law

133) In the phrase “trickier still” in paragraph 2, which is closest in meaning to “trickier”?

- a) more magical
- b) quieter
- c) more mobile
- d) more difficult

134) Which was NOT mentioned in the text?

- a) Robolaw was a project mainly funded by the E.U.
- b) They want to keep the principles of European Law
- c) The group consisted of experts in engineering, medicine and language
- d) The group presented their report to the Parliament

135) What does the group advocate for?

- a) legislation that is too restrictive
- b) studying the way robots are used
- c) large legislation
- d) specific legislation to cover all kinds of robotic devices

136) What would the E.U. like to do above all?

- a) issue product-safety rules
- b) develop advanced prostheses
- c) avoid new robotic technologies
- d) stifle innovation

137) What could discourage the development of new technologies?

- a) overly strict product-safety rules
- b) exemptions for manufacturers
- c) “no-fault” plans
- d) compensation funds

138) What does the term “robot” at the end of paragraph 4 NOT refer to?

- a) hoovers
- b) drones
- c) products used in different fields
- d) medical devices

139) Who is at the head of the Robolaw group?

- a) the European Parliament
- b) Asimov
- c) Andrea Bertoloni
- d) a school in Italy

140) What could NOT be done to reduce the weight on manufacturers?

- a) give them money
- b) have them and governments pay in anticipation of a possible problem
- c) establish “no-fault” plans
- d) draw up liability exemptions