



## CONCOURS PREMIERE ANNEE 2016

14 mai 2016

Epreuve de langue

Durée : une heure / Coefficient 1

Feuille de réponses : QCM de langue / Anglais

Cet examen comporte deux parties :

**I. Compréhension d'un texte écrit** (utilisez la grille de réponses au verso) / 20

*1 point pour chaque réponse juste*

*0 point pour chaque 'non réponse' et pour chaque réponse fausse.*

Voici la manière d'indiquer votre réponse : 1

**Nota bene :** Vos réponses au QCM de cet examen doivent être portées sur la grille de réponses ; une fois fini l'examen, glissez celle-ci à l'intérieur de la copie d'examen où vous aurez préalablement inscrit votre nom etc. dans le coin supérieur droit prévu à cet effet.

**II. Expression écrite** (utilisez la copie d'examen) / 20

Inscrivez votre numéro de candidat ici : \_\_\_\_\_

**1<sup>ère</sup> Partie :**            / 20

**2<sup>ème</sup> Partie:**            / 20

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Observations :

**Note générale :**            /20

Observations :

## TEXTE

### **Britain's 'Brexit' Folly**

**Roger Cohen, Op-Ed Columnist – The New York Times – Oct. 26, 2015**

LONDON — The little Englanders and their enablers determined to take Britain out of the European Union believe the perfect storm is upon them.

Look across the Channel, they argue, and see the hordes of desperate refugees intent on disrupting the British way of life (whatever they imagine that to be) and living off British welfare. Look beyond **(5)** them and see the 19-member eurozone mired in the agony of its flawed creation. Look at the whole European Continent, with its sluggish economies and myriad regulations, and imagine a glorious island nation freed from the burdens of an unhappy association with the complex-ridden losers of World War II!

It's all baloney, and dangerous baloney at that, fanned by the Murdoch press, the anti-immigrant hatemongers of the U.K. Independence Party, and the sovereignty-obsessed conservative backbenchers of **(10)** Prime Minister David Cameron who believe Britain can boss it again in the world if unbound from the shackles of Brussels and bureaucrats intent on stipulating the shape of cucumbers.

The fact is the European Union has been good for Britain — its economy, its openness, its culture, its financial services and its global clout. Postwar imperial decline has been offset by European construction. The British overcoat has become ampler. But such is the jingoistic clamor that Cameron has **(15)** blinked and, [in June] Britain will vote (for the first time since 1975) on whether to remain part of the European Union. The vote will be definitive.

A vote to leave, for Pat McFadden, a Labour Party member of Parliament and staunch supporter of continued membership, would be a disaster — not just for the economy, trade, investment and jobs— but also for Britain's place in the world. Britain does nearly half its trade with other European Union **(20)** countries and, as an E.U. member, is part of a \$18.5 trillion economy, larger than that of the United States. Exports to the European Union support over 4 million jobs, directly or indirectly. On its own, Britain is a significant pygmy, with less than 1 percent of the world's population and less than 3 percent of global output; it is not in the 21st-century major league.

Moreover, as McFadden told me, "If Britain leaves the E.U., Scotland will leave Britain" ...and so a **(25)** British exit from Europe could well mean the end of the very Great Britain proudly invoked by the shoot-yourself-in-the-foot "Brexit" brigade.

Like empires, nations do break up. Sometimes the process is inevitable, sometimes precipitated by folly. Britain could commit an act of folly by leaving the European Union. That would not be in its nature. **(30)** Britain's force has been tied to practicality, prudence and openness. But an age of rage is upon us. Anything is possible.

The refugee issue is typical of the way emotion has displaced reason. Very few have come to Britain, which opted out of the Schengen Agreement, removing border checks between 26 European countries. Britain is, however, part of the Dublin Regulation requiring E.U. governments to process asylum seekers in the **(35)** first country they reach — a regulation that, over the years, has enabled Britain to send back thousands of people to their place of entry into the Union. In effect, as Hugo Dixon puts it in his important book "The In/Out Question," Britain has enjoyed "the best of both worlds."

An exit, as Dixon told me, would turn Britain from "rule maker into rule taker." It would presumably want to remain part of a single market of half a billion people (as Norway is, despite not being a European **(40)** Union member), but would no longer have any say in how that market is shaped. Britain would equally lose its place at the table in the discussion of European banking and financial services, a vital sector. As Mark

Carney, the governor of the Bank of England, said in a speech this month, British economic “dynamism” — he used the word several times — has been boosted by the European Union because Britain “has successfully harnessed the benefits of openness afforded by its E.U. membership” (45) while avoiding the “reduced flexibility” of some continental European economies. Britain has grown through the euro crisis.

Carney’s speech was timely. The field has been dominated for too long by the bloviating “Brexit” camp. Cameron must no longer wait for a cosmetic renegotiation of Britain’s deal with the European Union before declaring that opting for “out” is opting for decline, illusion, the past and marginalization.

## **1ère partie : Compréhension d'un texte écrit.**

**Questions 1 to 10:** in each case, choose the answer that corresponds most closely to the meaning of the text. Use the answer grid to indicate your choice by darkening the appropriate box.

1. 'Little Englanders' (line 1) are:
  - a) People in favour of a break-up of the United Kingdom.
  - b) Nationalist voters who want Britain to leave the EU.
  - c) Pessimistic English who have no great ambition for the country.
  - d) Working class people in England who are in favour of a Brexit.
  
2. The "perfect storm" (line 2) is:
  - a) The forthcoming referendum and its aftermath.
  - b) The very divisive and angry Brexit campaign.
  - c) Once out of the EU, Britain will be alone to face fierce global competition.
  - d) The wonderful and unique opportunity that a Brexit would be for Britain.
  
3. "Conservative backbenchers" (line 9) are:
  - a) Backward and radical MPs.
  - b) Members of the Conservative Party who are not in the Cabinet.
  - c) Conservatives who back the government.
  - d) Members of the Conservative party kept in reserve for important votes in the Commons.
  
4. What can you infer from "bureaucrats intent on stipulating the shape cucumbers" (line 11)?:
  - a) Bureaucrats have given up their normalising effort.
  - b) Bureaucrats produce norms that are, in fact, simple guess work.
  - c) Bureaucrats are firmly resolved to regulate anything and everything.
  - d) Bureaucrats have a twisted, macho, one-track mind.
  
5. Which of the following best illustrates the expression "The British overcoat has become ampler" (line 14)?:
  - a. Britain's influence has decreased since the loss of her Empire.
  - b. Thanks to her EU membership Britain has gained more international importance.
  - c. Britain's ambitions are no longer in keeping with her true international weight.
  - d. Britain is better protected now than she used to be.
  
6. Which of the following best illustrates the word "jingoistic" (line 14)?:
  - a) The mood in Britain is excessively nationalist.
  - b) A majority of Britons cry out loud as soon as Europe is mentioned.
  - c) The British are intrinsically boastful.
  - d) A majority of Britons openly support Cameron.
  
7. Which of the following sentences is closest in meaning to "on its own Britain is a significant pygmy" (l 22)?
  - a) Britain's overall economic clout is globally marginal.
  - b) Millions of British jobs are subsidized by the EU.
  - c) Even outside Europe, Britain will still have considerable influence.
  - d) Despite its small population, Britain is still a significant global player.
  
8. Which of the following best illustrates the expression "shoot-yourself-in-the-foot Brexit brigade" (line 26)?:
  - a) The people who think that leaving the EU would make Britain greater than they are deluding themselves.
  - b) Radical Brexit campaigners sometimes turn threatening and even violent.
  - c) The Brexit campaigners have organised themselves in a quasi-military way.
  - d) Should they fail, some pro-Brexit campaigners have threatened to take matters further.

9. Which of the following can you infer from the expression “an age of rage is upon us” (line 30)?:

- a) The British are so angry that they will vote for Brexit.
- b) A revolution is brewing in Europe.
- c) The Conservatives are enraged at Brussels and the EU in general.
- d) Unexpected and irrational forces at play in Europe may well cause it to break up.

10 “Britain has enjoyed the best of both worlds” (line 37) suggests that:

- a) Britain is pleased to be the best country not just in the EU, but also in the world.
- b) Britain’s relationship with the EU has been a happy and fruitful one up till now.
- c) Britain has maintained her ‘Special Relationship’ with the US despite her joining the EU.
- d) Britain’s renegotiated EU membership has enabled her to benefit from being ‘in’ as well as ‘out’.

**Questions 11 to 20** : Each of these presents a part of a sentence with a word or phrase underlined. Below each sentence there are three other words or phrases. Choose the word or phrase which would best maintain the original meaning of the sentence, if it were substitutes in the contest of the article in the place of the underlines word or phrase:

11. ‘The little Englanders and their enablers’ ...(line 1 ):

- a) someone who does everything possible to make England great
- b) someone who does everything possible to criticise England
- c) someone who does everything possible to criticise Europe

12. ...and ‘living off British welfare’ ...(line 4):

- a) cheating the welfare system
- b) surviving on the welfare system
- c) misusing the welfare system to live

13. ...’see the 19-member eurozone mired in the agony of its flawed creation’ ...(line 5):

- a) trapped in
- b) fooled by
- c) confused by

14. ...’with its sluggish economies and myriad regulations’...(line 6)

- a) slow-moving
- b) difficult to regulate
- c) volatile

15. ‘It’s all baloney’...(line 8)

- a) disinformation
- b) rhetoric
- c) nonsense

16. ...’fanned by the Murdoch press’,...(line 8):

- a) fuelled by
- b) denounced by
- c) deterred by

17. ...'the anti-immigrant hatemongers'...(line 9)

- a) people who spread stories to cause fear
- b) people who enjoy stirring up enmity
- c) people who hate the British government's policy

18. ...Cameron has blinked...(line 15)

- a) closed his eyes
- b) given in
- c) turned a blind eye

19. ...'and staunch supporter of continued membership',...(line 17 )

- a) unreliable
- b) recent
- c) loyal

20. ...would no longer have any say...(line 40)

- a) right to give an opinion
- b) outlook
- c) standpoint

## **2ème partie : Rédaction**

*Écrivez sur la copie d'examen.*

**Nombre maximum de mots : 160**

Inscrivez le nombre de mots à la fin de votre rédaction.

**Subject: You are a Conservative MP at a pro-Brexit meeting. Write the speech you would deliver to support your arguments.**