

Exemples de sujets oraux d'anglais session 2018

SUJET 1

The Bayeux Tapestry and Anglo-French relations
BBC Newsnight
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Ancient military figures appear to be morphing into globe-trotting diplomats. A decade ago, China's terracotta army arrived in London to herald a new era in Sino British relations. And now, the Bayeux tapestry is due to land on our shores. It may be a bloody and gruesome depiction of an English defeat but the ever-canny Emmanuel MACRON calculates our affection for the medieval masterpiece will allow it to serve as a powerful signal of warm relations after Brexit.

I remember going to see the Bayeux Tapestry I think I was about six with my mother and being completely entranced by the fact that women had sat and stitched this extraordinary story which goes all the way around the room so that, that long-standing relationship, not always friendly, that we've had with the French, but a long-standing and absolutely firm relation with the French is one that he's making a bond which has never been done before by offering this extraordinary piece of work and this story that shares our heritage.

I think it's one of those beautiful relationships which does go through ups and downs admittedly over the what, over the past 1000 years since the Bayeux Tapestry but which is still a thousand years later incredibly strong and which is a vector and a product for cooperation on issues of tremendous importance which impact both our countries.

If you want to find a symbol of the *entente cordiale* you can perhaps do no better than visit the statue of Charles de Gaulle, the leader of the free French who was given refuge in London during the Second World War. But De Gaulle personally embodies the perennially scratchy nature of Anglo-French relations. IN 1943, Winston Churchill described him as vain and malignant and two decades later, he vetoed Britain's application to join the EEC.

The legacy of De Gaulle, always to put French interests first, even at the cost of ruffling feathers, is upheld by today's occupant of the Elysée Palace. Behind tomorrow's friendly and cost-free gesture lies some raw, French calculations about how they can use Brexit to their advantage.

When it comes to French interests, economic interests in the Brexit negotiations, he will be hard-headed and he will push for a tough outcome. I don't think he wants to have a collapse, you know, a disaster, I think he wants an agreement, but yeh, he will be very tough and single-minded in defending French Interests. Yeh, they will say "you can't have your cake and eat it" if you're in the single market or aligning yourself with the single market, fine, if you're not, you can't cherry pick that you want to be in this bit and out of that bit. And yes, of course, where there's an opportunity of draining jobs away from the UK into France, they will be taking it.

And that gap left by Britain, and the lack of leadership in Berlin has provided president Macron with a space to shape his vision for the future of Europe which he's been developing for years.

There was originally a realisation that Europe in the last ten to fifteen years hasn't progressed fast enough on a certain number of issues and that we needed a new force for proposals and that was what his speech at *La Sorbonne* which outlined a whole host of potential areas where we could integrate more, where we could have more cooperation between European member states and more integration at European level.

I think at the moment on the European scene, president Macron is the dominant personality, and he is out there, as we've seen, taking initiatives, trying to help in international crises and cutting a dash on the world stage. And he's biding his time, waiting for there to be a German chancellor that he can go to work with on building Europe.

Emmanuel Macron will signal tomorrow that France will always have a special place for Britain in its affections but as the UK walks away from the EU, France is already looking to new horizons.

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Document audio : https://www.concours-agro-veto.net/IMG/mp3/the_bayeux_tapestry_wealleans.mp3

SUJET 2

“Black Farmers are Sowing the Seeds...” (4)

More than 9 out of 10 farm owners in the United States are white, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. And there's a growing movement to try to change that. The goal is to help more people of color become farmers and to make healthy living more accessible to more people. NPR's Alan Yu reports.

ALAN YU, BYLINE: Chris Newman used to be a software engineering manager in the D.C. area - well-paid, but he worked long hours, ate fast food and went to the doctor a lot. Eventually, enough was enough.

CHRIS NEWMAN: I don't eat at Popeyes anymore. I think it's disgusting. I used to love Popeyes.

YU: Newman says he and his wife moved to Charlottesville, Va., to become farmers. He keeps pigs, ducks and chickens.

NEWMAN: I have a really hard time eating bad meat. I'll eat a vegetarian dish at a restaurant if I don't know where that meat's coming from.

(SOUNDBITE OF CHICKEN CLUCKING)

YU: There's no bad meat on this farm. Newman knows these chickens and takes good care of them.

(SOUNDBITE OF CHICKEN CLUCKING)

YU: He says the idea is to give the animals sunlight and room to run around, so their manure doesn't overwhelm one spot and so he doesn't have to give the animals antibiotics.

NEWMAN: It's not just about our happy damn chickens. This is about, how do we fix this system?

YU: Newman wants a lot more people like him growing food using these methods. Specifically, he wants to help more people of color get involved in farming.

NEWMAN: So what has to happen in order for this to be accessible to everyone is way bigger than me, is way bigger than this farm, is way bigger than all the farms in central Virginia or the mid-Atlantic or anywhere else.

YU: To get more people of color interested in farming, first, you have to show it's a viable career. But then there is a more complicated problem - one that the vast majority of farmers don't have because they're mostly white. A couple years ago, Newman was driving past a rich neighborhood. He pulled his pickup truck over to the side of the road to eat his lunch.

NEWMAN: This lady, like, jogs by, and she gives me this look. And every black man in America knows that look. It's a mix of fear and incongruence. Like, you don't belong. Something's wrong. And as soon as she, you know, ran by and gave me that look, I'm like, the cops are going to be here in less than five minutes. And lo and behold, like, five minutes later, here comes a cop.

YU: Newman says this officer was in a part of town where police almost never go. The cop slows down and looks at him.

NEWMAN: I know how to disarm white people, you know? First thing you do is smile. You act like you own the place. You act white. Change your voice, you know, to where you code switch and you become a lot more articulate. You maybe lower your voice a little bit. Or maybe you just raise your voice a little bit and talk like kind of an intellectual. You make sure that there isn't too much in your voice. And smile. Always smile.

YU: Newman is addressing the lack of diversity among farmers by hiring interns, focusing on women, people of color and other underrepresented groups. And there's demand for this kind of work. Leah Penniman is a farmer and activist at Soul Fire Farm in New York state.

LEAH PENNIMAN: I started getting calls from mostly black women in different places in the country who were saying, like, I just need to hear your voice and know that I'm not alone and to know that it's possible to be a farmer.

YU: She also teaches black and Latino people basic farming skills. And demand for her training is booming. And she's developed a system where the people who can afford it pay more to cover the cost of those who can't.

PENNIMAN: The food, no matter what - it comes every week to folks' doorsteps - high-quality, full box of veggies. And for many people, they say if it wasn't for that, they would just be eating, you know, boiled pasta because that's the most calories for the least money.

YU: Penniman says she hopes to bring healthy food to people who can't afford it - one household, one farmer and one box of veggies at a time. Alan Yu, NPR News.

“Black Farmers are Sowing the Seeds...” (4)

Document audio : https://www.concours-agro-veto.net/IMG/mp3/black_farmers_are_sowing_the_seeds.mp3

SUJET 3

25/10/2017_BBC Business News_ (04:14) / 662 words

“E.U. to Ban Glyphosate Weedkiller?” (5)

But first a two year row over whether to ban the use of a common weed killer in Europe reaches its climax later. E.U. health experts are due to vote on whether to extend the license for glyphosate. It's a chemical used by farmers and gardeners right across the world in the herbicide world known as RoundUp. Just to give you an idea, residue of the chemical has been found on 45% of Europe's top soils and it was discovered in the urine of three quarters of Germans tested at 5 times the legal limit. Well the reason that all of this is worrying for some are the links between glyphosate and cancer. A study back in 2015 by the WHO's cancer agency found that it was probably carcinogenic to humans. Monsanto which discovered the chemical and owns the RoundUp brand insists that it is safe. The other issue is what could replace it. Several farmers unions have threatened lawsuits if the license is not extended because they then have to completely change how they farm.

Ben: Thanks Alice, with me is our economics correspondent Andrew Walker.

Andrew, as Alice was mentioning, there's a lot riding on this decision, isn't it?

Andrew: yes, the glyphosate is the most widely used pesticide and it is very important for farmers as it's currently practiced; in particular in the European Union. There have been a number of estimates about the potential economic cost if they were unable to use it. As one study suggested, a billion pounds a year would be the cost to British farmers. Other studies in France suggested even larger costs for French vine growers and cereal farmers. So, yes a lot of stakes, quite apart from the potential losses for the suppliers and Monsanto is one you mentioned but there are others, other businesses that use the new glyphosate in their pesticides also worth mentioning. The ability to use glyphosate is one of the key selling points of certain types of GM crops because they are resistant to glyphosate which means that the soil around can be sprayed with this herbicide and they survive intact without having to deal with the competition from weeds.

Alice: The politics behind this are interesting, aren't they Andrew? Because the European Commission seems to be in favor of renewing the license but the European Parliament sits on the other side of the fence.

Andrew: Yes, the European Parliament yesterday passed a resolution calling for glyphosate to be phased out over 5 years. The European Commission, on the other hand, originally proposed a 10 year renewal. They are now accepting it because of the politics; it's likely to be shorter. In a meeting that is happening today, they are looking for something between 5 and 7 years. But it is striking. They could in principle go ahead and simply the Commission could go ahead and do this if they wanted to but they want to make sure that the member states are on side because it is so politically sensitive in many of them. We have a petition signed by more than a million Europeans presented to the E.U. this week calling for no extension.

Ben: Andrew, I was speaking to someone from the European Crop Protection Agency earlier who said that there's very little evidence that it is carcinogenic. I mean that's one of the big issues that's made this so controversial.

Andrew: Well indeed, there are a couple of European agencies, one looking at food, one looking at chemicals that have concluded that glyphosate is probably OK. The main report against it, as Alice mentioned at the beginning, is from

the WHO's cancer research agency which thought it was probably carcinogenic to humans based to a large extent on evidence from animal experiments and evidence looking at DNA damage in human cells but at the very least, it is fair to say that the scientific community does not regard it as established facts but it is dangerous.

“E.U. to Ban Glyphosate Weedkiller?” (5)

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