

<b>REPUBLIQUE TUNISIENNE</b> ♦♦♦ <b>MINISTERE DE L'EDUCATION</b>	<b>EXAMEN DU BACCALAUREAT</b> <b>SESSION DE JUIN 2012</b>		
<b>SECTIONS : Mathématiques + Sciences Expérimentales + Economie et Gestion + Sciences de l'Informatique</b>	<b>Epreuve : ANGLAIS</b>	<b>Durée : 2h</b>	<b>COEFFICIENT : 1</b>
	<b>SESSION DE CONTRÔLE</b>		

Le sujet comporte 4 pages

## I. READING COMPREHENSION (12 marks)

1. Abby's hand shoots up nearly every time her teacher asks the 19 active first-graders in her Philadelphia public school to match letters of the alphabet to the sounds they make. Sitting up front, Abby, 7, looks as eager as any of her classmates to give a quick answer. But every time the teacher calls on her, Abby freezes. She strains to respond and her words are inaudible. She's effectively mute throughout the school day. Her only communication is just few words whispered to a trusted girlfriend.
2. At home, however, Abby is a different child. She loves to play with her brother Jack, 5. "She speaks loudly and can be bossy toward her brother," says mother Lisa Barnes. Abby is, in every other way, a perfectly normal child who has no shortage of extracurricular activities, including horseback-riding lessons and dance classes that she's been attending since she was 4.
3. So why doesn't she speak up in class ? What may at first glance look like shyness is actually something far more complex. Abby, like hundreds of thousands of kids across the US, is suffering from a little-understood childhood disorder called selective mutism. According to psychiatrists, a child who has developed normally at home but has not talked at school or in other social situations for at least a month is a strong candidate for a diagnosis of SM.
4. SM can strike at any age, even among children who once talked in public, but it usually becomes obvious by age 3 or 4. The root of the problem in most cases is an extreme form of social anxiety or phobia. "It is a fear that can literally make it impossible to speak," says Dr. Elisa Blum, who specializes in treating selective mutism. As with most social anxieties, SM is more common in girls and is believed to have a strong genetic component. About 70% of kids with SM have an immediate family member who also struggles with social anxiety.

By Wendy Cole  
Time Magazine Feb. 6, 2006

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

**1. Tick (✓) the most suitable title to the text (1 mark)**

- a) Why Abby refuses to talk ☐
- b) Why Abby won't talk ☐
- c) Why Abby keeps talking ☐

**2. Correct the following statements with details from the text (3 marks)**

- a) Abby is able to clearly say letters of the alphabet.  
.....
- b) Only few American kids suffer from SM.  
.....
- c) SM affects more boys than girls.  
.....

**3. Complete the paragraph with words from the text (4 marks)**

Selective mutism is a psychological ..... that can  
..... at any age. It is some kind of social  
..... that makes it impossible for the person to speak up in  
.....

**4. Pick out two (2) details from the text that show that Abby behaves like a normal child at home (2 marks)**

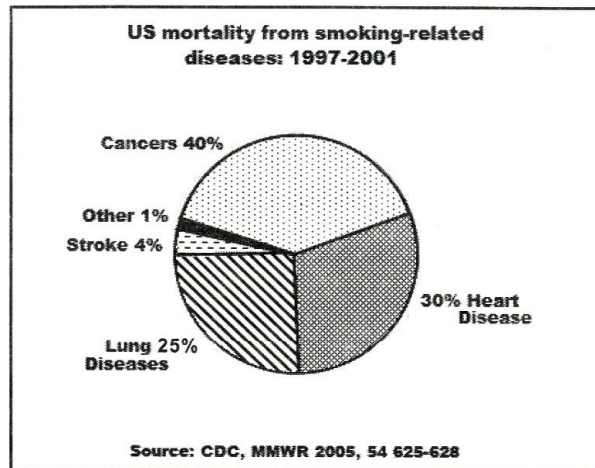
- a) .....
- b) .....

**5. Find words that nearly mean the same as : (2 marks)**

- a) very keen : (paragraph 1) .....
- b) easy to notice : (paragraph 4) .....

## II. WRITING (12 marks)

1. Use the data in the chart to write a 4-line paragraph about the health risks of smoking in the US. (4 marks)



2. Nowadays more youngsters are increasingly dependent on their cell phones, video and computer games, and social networking websites. (8 marks)

Write a 12-line article for your school magazine in which you warn teenagers of the adverse effects of addictions on their health, school results and social relationships.

**(DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME)**

### III. LANGUAGE (6 marks)

#### 1. Fill in the blanks with 6 words from the list below : (3 marks)

At – Despite – should – steamed – challenge – Although – who – adequate

Being a parent is the greatest of life's joys, but it is also one of the most difficult jobs in the world. There are times that it seems like an insurmountable ..... to get your children to eat the right things, including an ..... amount of fruits and vegetables. The national health guidelines suggest that kids ..... get at least five portions of fruits and vegetables each day. .... this may seem like quite a lot, it isn't really difficult to get these five servings into a day. You can serve a whole piece of fruit, such as a banana or an orange, with the breakfast. .... lunchtime, you could serve something on the side of a meal, such as carrots with peanut butter and raisins on them. Dinner is a good time for vegetables, but use fresh varieties that are offered either uncooked or..... . This will help your child to get most of the nutrients out of the produce.

#### 2. Put the bracketed words in the right form or tense (3 marks)

Facebook, the world's largest social network, **(announce)** ..... in July 2010 that it had 500 million users around the world. The company **(grow)** ..... at a meteoric pace, doubling in size since 2009 and **(push)** ..... international competitors aside. Its policies, more than those of any other company, are helping to define standards for **(private)** ..... in the Internet age. The company, founded in 2004 by Mark Zuckerberg, **(begin)** ..... life catering first to Harvard students and then to all high school and college students. It has since then evolved into a **(broad)** ..... popular online destination used by both teenagers and adults of all ages.