



Concours Mathématiques et Physique, Physique et Chimie,
Biologie et Géologie & Technologie
Epreuve d'Anglais

Date : Jeudi 06 juin 2002 Heure : 15 H Durée : 2 H Nbre pages : 8

Barème : Part I :30, Part II: 30, Part III: 20

IMPORTANT:

1. L'épreuve d'anglais comporte deux séries de feuilles :

- Les énoncés s'étalant sur 4 pages que les candidats sont appelés à garder
- Les feuilles réservées aux réponses (Answer sheets) s'étalant sur 4 pages, lesquelles doivent être rendues à la fin de l'épreuve aux professeurs surveillants

2. Il sera tenu compte de la présentation, (l'écriture au crayon n'étant pas permise)

Reading passage :

1. With the development of affordable computer technology over the past two decades, coupled with the need for increased and faster communications, the American office place has experienced a significant metamorphosis. While it was once a luxury to have your own office phone extension, it is now common for workers to have voice mail, personal computers, e-mail and Internet connection. While these advances have aided productivity and business growth, they have also created new concerns over corporate security efforts and the privacy rights of employees.

As American workers generate billions of e-mails and phone calls every business day, employers are increasingly monitoring and cataloguing these and other employee communications. According to the American Management Association, 73.5 percent of major U.S. corporations record and monitor employee e-mails, computer files and phone conversations, as well as track Web sites workers visit on the Internet. These companies often perceive monitoring as the best means of limiting liability and increasing worker productivity. Companies vary on whether they inform employees of such tactics.

While the American Civil Liberties Union, numerous computer privacy groups and cores of employees condemn monitoring, arguing that it violates personal privacy, laws regarding workplace privacy indicate differently. Passed by Congress in 1986, the Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA) gave employers the right to monitor electronic communications "in the ordinary course" of business. Public debate has raged over the ethics and legality of employer monitoring. In October 1999, California Governor Gray Davis vetoed a state bill that would have prohibited companies from openly monitoring employee communications. Other states are addressing similar issues of legislation.

Monitoring the electronic communications of employees violates their Constitutional right to privacy established by the Fourth Amendment. Such practices alienate workers, increase their stress levels and destroy company loyalty, all of which are detrimental to the company.

overall company performance and customer service. Electronic communications, especially of a private nature, are the property of individuals. The ECPA and several current state laws regarding worker privacy give too much authority to employers and are extremely antiquated. The Internet and e-mail were barely in existence when the ECPA became law. New laws must be enacted to prohibit electronic monitoring and protect worker privacy.

5. The legal right of employers to intercept the electronic communications of employees is invaluable to the security and success of countless companies and must be protected. Considering several recent lawsuits in which plaintiffs sued employers over inappropriate office communications, many containing racial or sexually offensive material, employers must be able to review employee communications to limit their liability. Monitoring employee e-mails and computer hard drives combats the constant risk of internal hacking and sabotage by dissatisfied workers. Employees should be focused on company goals and customer needs when on company time, not e-mail and Web surfing.

by Bryan Knowles
June 15, 2000

PART I: Comprehension Questions on The Reading Passage (30 marks)

I – Complete the table on the answer sheet with information from the passage.

II – Mention 4 techniques used by employers in monitoring their employees.

III - How is the need for electronic monitoring viewed by:

- a) Employees and privacy activists groups?
- b) Employers?

IV – Complete the following sentence with information from the passage

The company performance and customer service are likely to be seriously affected due to factors such as ...

V – What is ECPA criticized for?

VI – From the passage, it is implied that the 4th amendment (tick the appropriate answer on the answer sheet)

- a) violates employees privacy
- b) protects the right to privacy
- c) denies any right constitutionally established before it
- d) regulates monitoring practices

VII – Focus on the last 2 paragraphs and find out what is proposed to protect the interests and rights of both employers and employees.

VIII – Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Justify your answer

- a) Electronic monitoring is illegal in California
- b) All company employers agree that employees should be made aware that they are being monitored

IX - What do the following words refer to in the text:

- a) they (§ 1)
- b) these (§ 2)
- c) all of which(§ 4)
- d) their (§ 5)

X – Find in the text words which have the closest meaning to:

- 1. worries (§ 1)
- 2. breaks (§ 3)
- 3. harmful (§ 4)
- 4. very precious (§ 5)

XI – Choose a suitable title for the text from the following alternatives:

- a) Violating workers privacy through electronic monitoring
- b) Increasing workers productivity through electronic monitoring
- c) Increasing employers security through electronic monitoring

PART II: Language (30 marks)

1. Choose the right alternative :

[1] (*Despite, According to, Although, Due to*) the theory of continental drift, the continents are not fixed in position but [2] (*even, instead, also, only*) move slowly across the surface of the earth, constantly [3] (*changed, changing, changes, unchangeable*) in position relative to one another.

This theory was first proposed in the eighteenth century [4] (*when, while, where, which*) mapmakers noticed how closely the continents of the earth fit together when they were matched up. It was suggested then that the present-day continents had [5] (*hence, once, such, often*) been one large continent that had broken up into pieces which drifted apart.

Today the modern theory of plate tectonics has [6] (*developed, achieved, elaborated, raised*) from the theory of continental drift. The theory of plate tectonics suggests that

the crust of the earth is divided into six large, and [7] (*many, little, less, much*) small tectonic plates that drift on the lava that composes the inner core of the earth. These plates consist [8] (*in, of, about, on*) ocean floor and continents that quite probably began breaking [9] (*up, into, out, in*) and moving relative to one another more than 200 million years [10] (*since, before, past, ago*).

2. Supply the correct tense and / or verb form :

Public- health experts used [1] (to think) that science and vigilance in health care [2] (to vanquish) the worst diseases. Now they know better. By cutting down forests, [3] (to flood) the landscape with vast hydroelectric dams and digging up fragile rain-forest soil [4] (to build) roads, Brazilians have given a wide variety of germs newfound opportunity [5] (to infect) humans. Since 1973 the World Health Organization [6] (to identify) worldwide about 30 emerging diseases – ailments that [7] (to become) major health threats- most of which have turned up in Brazil. And it isn't just the diseases themselves that [8] (to keep) scientists awake at night, but the proliferation of vectors that carry them. When forests [9] (to clear) for agriculture, ranching and logging, mosquitoes [10] (to breed) in the puddles of water that tend to form on the ground.

2. Fill in the blanks with words of your own that make sense (Use only one word per blank space):

Knowledge is like light. Weightless and intangible, it can easily travel the world, enlightening the lives of people everywhere. ... (1)... billions ... (2)... people still live in the darkness of poverty – unnecessarily. Knowledge about... (3)... to treat such a simple ailment ... (4)... diarrhea has existed ... (5)... centuries – but millions of children continue to die ... (6)... it because their parents do not know how to save ... (7)...

Poor countries differ from rich ones not ... (8)... because they have less capital but because they have less knowledge. Knowledge is often costly to create, and that is why much of it... (9)... created in industrial countries. But developing countries can acquire knowledge overseas as well as create their own ... (10)... home.

PART III: Translation & Writing (20 marks)

A - Translate the following sentence into English : (5 marks)

On constate que le nombre de gens qui se connectent à l'Internet ne cesse de croître à un rythme très accéléré depuis que les nouvelles technologies de l'information sont devenues plus accessibles au public.

B - Write about the following topic in about 15 lines : (15 marks)

Which source(s) of energy should be encouraged in the future, and why?

Ne rien écrire ici

NE RIEN ECRIRE
DANS CETTE COLONNE

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PART II :

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Ne rien écrire ici

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VI -

a	b	c	d

VII -

a).....

b).....

VIII -

a).....

b).....

IX -

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b - :.....

c - :.....

d - :.....

X -

1. 2.

3. 4.

XI -

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NE RIEN ECRIRE
DANS CETTE COLONNE