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PRÉPARATION AUX GRANDES ÉCOLES  
PRÉPARATION AU GRAND ORAL

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**SUJET OFFICIEL**

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***ANNALES CONCOURS A VENIR***  
**ANGLAIS**

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NOM : .....

PRENOM : .....

NUMERO PARCOURSUP : .....



## EPREUVE D'ANGLAIS

DUREE : 30 minutes  
Coefficient 3

### CONSIGNES SPECIFIQUES

**Lisez attentivement les consignes afin de vous placer dans les meilleures conditions de réussite de cette épreuve.**

**Vous devez traiter la totalité des 45 questions afin d'obtenir la note maximale.**

Aucun brouillon n'est distribué, les pages blanches de ce sujet peuvent être utilisées à cet effet.

**L'usage de la calculatrice ou de tout autre appareil électronique (connecté ou non) est interdit.**

Aucun document autre que ce sujet et sa grille réponse n'est autorisé.

Attention, il ne s'agit pas d'un examen mais bien d'un concours qui aboutit à un classement.

Si vous trouvez ce sujet "difficile", ne vous arrêtez pas en cours de composition, n'abandonnez pas, restez concentré(e).

Les autres candidats rencontrent probablement les mêmes difficultés que vous !

### **Barème :**

**Une seule réponse exacte par question.** Afin d'éliminer les stratégies de réponses au hasard, **chaque réponse exacte est gratifiée de 3 points**, tandis que **chaque réponse fautive est pénalisée par le retrait de 1 point.**

Part I - GRAMMAR

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentences and put the corresponding letter on the answer sheet.

1. After you've finished this question, you can go on \_\_\_\_\_ the next question.  
a. answered      b. answer      c. to answering      d. to answer
2. You can use the weekly discussion forum to ask questions, discuss content and \_\_\_\_\_ assignments as directed.  
a. to submitting      b. submit      c. submitting      d. submitted
3. We all agreed in the department that a decision \_\_\_\_\_ immediately.  
a. can be to make      b. ought to be made      c. should have made      d. must make
4. When \_\_\_\_\_ a tough day at work, all I want to do is go home and relax in front of my Netflix.  
a. I was had      b. I was having      c. I'll have      d. I've had
5. I expect my lecturer to \_\_\_\_\_ for not handing in my homework on time.  
a. tell me off      b. set me up      c. ask on me      d. come up me
6. The Japanese have never \_\_\_\_\_ to flat-sharing in the way that the Europeans have.  
a. given      b. fallen      c. run      d. taken
7. If he \_\_\_\_\_ the tram onto a different track, he will save the five engineers, but the tram will hit one other engineer who would otherwise have survived.  
a. diverts      b. will divert      c. diverted      d. had diverted
8. If you \_\_\_\_\_ the Prime Minister, what would you do to improve France?  
a. are      b. will be      c. would be      d. were
9. The weather \_\_\_\_\_ is unusually hot this month, has started to make people ill.  
a. -      b. that      c. what      d. which
10. The mugs, \_\_\_\_\_ were dirty, were left on the counter.  
a. most of them      b. many of whom      c. most of which      d. many of that
11. Sorry I'm late - I stopped \_\_\_\_\_ a man cross the road.  
a. helping      b. to help      c. and help      d. helped
12. We regret \_\_\_\_\_ that due to a fire on the line, all trains to Gare St Lazare have been cancelled until further notice.  
a. by announce      b. to announce      c. announcement      d. and announced

13. \_\_\_\_\_ none of his books had been praised by critics, Erwin never gave up his dreams of becoming a respected author.  
a. Even                      b. Despite                      c. During                      d. Although
14. The other children looked \_\_\_\_\_ her because her parents were poor.  
a. up with                      b. down to                      c. down on                      d. out to
15. If you have any questions on filling out your application form for the engineering degree, the admissions office will be more than \_\_\_\_\_ to help you.  
a. cheer                      b. gladden                      c. joyously                      d. happy
16. Mother could be angry. We \_\_\_\_\_ not stay out late tonight.  
a. would                      b. rather                      c. sooner                      d. had better
17. It's so hot; I \_\_\_\_\_ drive by night than leave in the morning.  
a. would                      b. would rather                      c. prefer                      d. better
18. Not only \_\_\_\_\_ the sights in Chicago, we also managed to do some shopping as well.  
a. we saw                      b. we were seeing                      c. do we see                      d. did we see
19. I'd rather you \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow, not today, if that's OK with you.  
a. came                      b. come                      c. will come                      d. are coming
20. Don't you think it's high time you \_\_\_\_\_ a job? You've been out of university now for a year!  
a. find                      b. have found                      c. will find                      d. found
21. When it \_\_\_\_\_ dark, we'll have to stop what we're doing and go home.  
a. gets                      b. will get                      c. got                      d. would get
22. As most of the members were absent, the meeting turned \_\_\_\_\_ to be a waste of time.  
a. up                      b. down                      c. in                      d. out
23. Please stop writing. You \_\_\_\_\_ not make any more marks on your answer sheet.  
a. would                      b. can't                      c. ought                      d. may
24. \_\_\_\_\_ people choose not to become whistle-blowers due to the fear of retaliation.  
a. Lot of                      b. Any                      c. Many                      d. Much
25. Algebra is the branch of mathematics concerned with operations on sets of numbers or other elements that are often represented \_\_\_\_\_ symbols.  
a. at                      b. to                      c. in                      d. by

Part II- VOCABULARY

26. If you have any questions \_\_\_\_\_ to the day of the test, please contact the school you have chosen or the organisers.  
a. prior                      b. before                      c. next                      d. advance
27. What's something you cannot \_\_\_\_\_ to buy now but would like to in the future?  
a. let                      b. afford                      c. permit                      d. enable
28. Do you think the average human \_\_\_\_\_ will increase in the next 20 years?  
a. lifespan                      b. life-duration                      c. expectancy                      d. life-lasting
29. \_\_\_\_\_ to file your tax returns on time may result in a 10 % penalty.  
a. Failure                      b. Omit                      c. Neglect                      d. Absence
30. My grandmother left \_\_\_\_\_ instructions regarding her will.  
a. fully                      b. deeds                      c. circumvent                      d. explicit
31. She had reached the \_\_\_\_\_ of her career when she became the Prime Minister of her country.  
a. ambition                      b. zeal                      c. zenith                      d. moment
32. Engineers always design spacecraft with \_\_\_\_\_ systems so that if the primary one fails the secondary one can take over.  
a. redundant                      b. relic                      c. remorse                      d. repel
33. That type of behavior is \_\_\_\_\_ in most human beings.  
a. ominous                      b. ornate                      c. innate                      d. mundane
34. Our English teacher reminded us that our writing style shouldn't be \_\_\_\_\_; rather, it should be clear and straightforward.  
a. innate                      b. ornate                      c. obstinate                      d. taciturn
35. The English language department examined the available TOEFL preparation books scrupulously; then they \_\_\_\_\_ several they felt to be of good educational value.  
a. advocated                      b. claimed                      c. embellish                      d. endorsed

Part III Reading Comprehension

'It's pretty easy to talk instead': pupils react to French phone ban



Students at Plouasne middle school in Brittany, France, which banned the use of mobile phone on its grounds four years ago. Adapted from the Guardian by Angelique Chrisafis. 7 Sep 2018.

At the end of lessons at Claude Debussy middle school in Paris, a classical music jingle played instead of a bell and teenagers poured out of the gates. Several 13-year-olds quickly reached into their bags to check their mobile phones, which had been switched off for eight hours.

From this week, children's phones have been banned from all state middle schools in France under a new law that President Emmanuel Macron said would help detox teenagers from their screens. "I thought I would be freaked out, but it has been fine," said one 13-year-old girl, who got an iPhone when she was 11. "I left my phone in my bag all day and I was surprised to find it didn't bother me. Normally I'd be on Snapchat and Instagram. But my friends are here at school so it's pretty easy to just talk instead."

She said she would probably use her phone more at home. "My parents don't set rules on phone use, but I've made my own rule: I don't check my phone after 11.30pm on a school night." Her friend, also 13, said she liked using her phone for watching shows on Netflix but the school connection was always too patchy for that, so she used to look at photos and listen to music at break time. "I haven't found it hard to ignore my phone this week," she said. "But there is still a physical reflex sometimes to reach for it and get it out."

The school in Paris's 15th arrondissement – where 460 pupils aged 11 to 15 come from a mix of high-income backgrounds and poorer families – prepared for the law by introducing phone-free Mondays last term. Previously, staff had noticed that children at break time would mostly be standing in the playground looking at their phones.

"About four or five weeks into our phone-free Monday experiment, we saw children bringing packs of cards into school to play in break time," said the principal, Eric Lathière. "We hadn't seen cards at school for years. Children brought books in to read and pupils stood around chatting far more than they had before."

He said he approved of the new law: "It's about educating people on phone addiction – and not just children, adults too. Any moment in the day when you can try to do [something] without a phone requires an effort but it's a habit worth forming." He was adamant, however, that the ban should not be seen as anti-technology. "We can't go against digital; that would be like trying to keep schools back from the evolution of society. It's about education around tech use."

## CONCOURS AVENIR – 8 MAI 2019

The centrist Macron made banning phones in schools part of his election manifesto not long after the New York city mayor, Bill de Blasio, did the opposite, **overturning** a ban on phones in public schools in 2015, saying parents wanted to keep in touch with their children.

The French education minister has called the ban a detox law for the 21st century, saying teenagers should have the right to disconnect. Children's phones were already banned in classrooms – except for teaching purposes – but under the new law they are banned everywhere inside the gates, including playgrounds and canteens. The French senate expanded this to allow high schools to ban phones if they choose, but few, if any, are expected to do so. Many suggest 18-year-old pupils with the right to vote can make their own decision on phones.

Frédérique Rolet, the secretary general of the SNES-FSU teaching union, said the first week of the ban appeared to have gone smoothly but stressed the law wasn't a monumental change: 60% of state middle schools had already decided in recent years to ban phones from playgrounds. "The education minister **sought** to appeal to parents, saying he was aware of the problem of phone addiction," she said. "But there are other important problems, such as growing class sizes, job cuts and the lack of teaching staff that also need to be talked about."

Schools that had previously banned phones said they had noticed more social interaction and empathy between children, and a readiness to learn at the start of lessons.

Jean-Noël Taché, the principal of a middle school with 800 pupils in a small town in rural Aveyron, introduced the phone ban this week. "There had been so much media talk about it that pupils and families were well-prepared," he said. "It's as if children not using their phones at school has simply become habit."

Previously, his pupils could use their phones at break time. "But we'd noticed that little by little the phone use was moving from the playground into the hall, then into the corridors, the lunch queues, outside the classroom door. Pupils weren't making calls, they were sending messages, playing on or looking at their phone – it was like it had become an extension of their hand."

In Paris, Michèle Bayard, a modern literature and language teacher, said she hadn't noticed pupils complaining about the ban. "This could bring a focus on new activities and interaction."

But at the school gate, a 14-year-old girl felt more credit should be given to teenagers. "There is this idea that our generation can't concentrate or has lost the ability to socialise. That's not true," she said. "When I'm with friends, showing them a picture on my phone or looking something up just adds to our conversation. It's a shame that I can't do that inside school anymore."

**Comprehension check**

**36. What is the main idea of this article?**

- a. To introduce phone free Mondays at school
- b. To explain what is happening at a school where the use of phone on its grounds was banned four years ago.
- c. To inform us about how teenagers are using their phones to watch shows on Netflix.
- d. It is about the new law aimed at detoxing teenagers from their screens.

**37. Where has the ban on phones already come into effect?**

- a. Just at Claude Debussy school in Paris.
- b. All the state middle schools in France.
- c. Just at Plouasne middle school in Brittany, France.
- d. Both the middle schools and high schools in France.

**38. What did teachers notice the pupils doing instead of looking at their phones?**

- a. Pupils are probably now using their phones more at home.
- b. Pupils are using their phones to watch shows on Netflix.
- c. Pupils are playing cards, reading and talking.
- d. Pupils are complaining about the ban.

**39. Why didn't the ban take pupils and their parents by surprise?**

- a. There had been so much in the media about the ban so they were well prepared.
- b. Children's phones were already banned in classrooms but nothing had been said in the media.
- c. Both the pupils and their parents knew that the ban was necessary.
- d. Pupils and their parents were educated on phone addiction.

**40. What other benefits have teachers noticed?**

- a. Little by little, their phone use was moving from the playground into the hall.
- b. Pupils could use their phones to look for information and hence perform better at school.
- c. Pupils are now playing more with board games rather than sending messages.
- d. Pupils are more ready and willing to start lessons on time and there is more social interaction and empathy between children.

**41. The word closest in meaning to the word 'adamant' in paragraph 6 is**

- a. agreeable and not totally convinced about a position
- b. flexible and ready to prove a position
- c. insistent especially in maintaining an opinion
- d. forceful and not ready to impose an opinion

**42. What is meant by the phrase 'phone-free Mondays'?**

- a. phones are free on Mondays
- b. phones can only be used freely on Mondays
- c. phones are not allowed on Mondays
- d. phones are given freely to pupils on Mondays



43. The word 'overturning' in paragraph 7 is closest in meaning to

- a. strenghtening
- b. destroying
- c. reversing
- d. straightening

44. The word 'sought' in paragraph 9 is closest in meaning to

- a. resorted to
- b. acquired
- c. attempted
- d. requested

45. What was NOT mentioned about pupils in the article?

- a. sending messages with their phones
- b. browsing Facebook at break time
- c. spending time on Snapchap and Instagram
- d. watching shows on Netflix

**FIN**



# Concours Avenir

Date du concours : **8 mai 2019**

Nom :

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A	B	C	D
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## ÉPREUVE D'ANGLAIS

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