



Le sujet comporte 4 pages

I. READING COMPREHENSION (15 marks)

THE TEXT

1- In 2007, I visited a client as a financial adviser and picked up a virus. I became mute. I wasn't concerned when I started to experience cold-like symptoms, and my husky voice was more of an irritation than a worry. My doctor assured me it would soon return to normal. Instead, it got worse. I could no longer make phone calls and started carrying a little whiteboard to write everything down. I tried to work mostly with people I already knew, who were likely to be more patient with me; but explaining things to investors with a marker pen was a big challenge.

2- By May of the following year, it was clear this might be long-term. Weeks of speech therapy made no difference. At home, my wife and teenage sons adjusted as best as they could. New technologies helped with my day-to-day life. Soon I was using a computer that read out phrases typed into it –not enough to save my job. My career had been a big part of my life, and losing it was a blow to my confidence. Friendships foundered as I turned down invitations, unwilling to sit in silence as conversations carried on around me. My relationship with my wife, Joanna, deteriorated and eventually we divorced.

3- In the summer of 2010, I received a text from my ex-wife telling me her dad had seen a news story about a waitress who'd had her voice restored by a doctor in Cleveland. **It had to be worth a shot.** At the appointment, Dr Milstein said, "I might be able to help you." It was the first time anyone had said that to me. We did some vocal exercises to stretch the muscles in my neck and to my astonishment I started to make sounds. It was the first time I'd heard my voice in three and a half years.

4- I phoned my parents and jokingly introduced myself to them. Friends were happy to hear my voice again and even when I was alone, I talked to myself. I don't regret those years of silence. I spent more time with my boys and had time to think about where I'd gone wrong as a husband and parent. **That time smoothed my rough edges.** I prefer who I am now.

Kevin Neff, The Guardian

November 2015



Section : ..... N° d'inscription : ..... Série : .....  
 Nom et prénom : .....  
 Date et lieu de naissance : .....



Épreuve : ANGLAIS (SECTION LETTRES)

**COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS**

1. Tick (✓) the correct option (1mark)

The text is mainly about a man who lost and recovered his voice and

- a. gained money
- b. gained experience
- c. gained fame

2. For each of the following statements, pick out one detail from the text showing that it is **false**. (3 marks)

- a- Kevin could quickly recover his voice. (paragraph 1)  
.....
- b- Kevin was expecting to begin talking again easily (paragraph 3)  
.....
- c- Kevin lost all contact with his wife after their divorce. (paragraph 3)  
.....

3. Focus on paragraph 2 and list the effects of Kevin's loss of voice on his (3 marks)

- a. professional life: .....
- b. social and family life:
  - i. ....
  - ii. ....

4. Answer the following questions with reference to the text. (3 marks)

- a. What caused Kevin's loss of voice?  
.....
- b. How did Kevin's sons react to help him?  
.....
- c. What did Kevin do to practice using his vocal cords?  
.....

5. Tick (✓) the correct alternative (2 marks)

- a. 'it had to be worth a shot' (paragraph 3) nearly means the same as
  - i. it was considered a wrong suggestion
  - ii. it deserved to be given a serious try
  - iii. it would cost him too much money
- b. 'That time smoothed my rough edges' (paragraph 4) nearly means the same as
  - i. That time made him question his past behaviour
  - ii. That time made him become more violent
  - iii. That time made him proud of his actions

6. What do the words underlined in the text refer to? (2 marks)

- a. 'it' (paragraph 1) refers to .....
- b. 'that' (paragraph 3) refers to .....

7. Give a personal and justified answer to the following question. (1 mark)

Do you think that Joanna's attitude to leave her husband was wise? Why? Why not?

I think that her attitude ..... because .....

**NE RIEN ECRIRE ICI**

**II- WRITING (15 marks)**

- 1. Use the notes in the table below to write a 5-line paragraph about the 2015 United Nations Climate Conference. (5 marks)**

Date	30 November - 12 December, 2015
Location	Le Bourget in the suburb of Paris, France
Participants	195 nations / all continents
Expected outcome	Sign / agreement / reduce global warming / keep it below 2° Celsius

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- 2. The Ministry of Education has created a Facebook page on which people share ideas about educational matters. Write a 12 – line post in which you suggest ways to improve education in your country. (10marks)**

**DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME**

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NE RIEN ECRIRE ICI

III- LANGUAGE (10 marks)

1. Fill in the blanks with 6 words from the box. (3 marks)

trouble / rate / preferably / actually / employees / valued / contribute / ignored

Working women today have it better than ever before. But few people agree on how to help them rise further. If both female and male ..... became more "gender intelligent" about how their work and behavioural preferences are innate, it would ..... to a more harmonious workforce. Women have been choosing to leave companies at twice the ..... of men. Women often tell their bosses that they are quitting for personal reasons, but the majority ..... leave because they feel excluded from teams and not ..... for their contributions. Yet, the reality is that women often have ..... communicating with other women at work as well. Women also often lack the financing that male entrepreneurs enjoy.

2. Circle the right alternative: ( 3 marks )

They look like the real thing: the end glows as you inhale. As you exhale, you puff out a cloud of what looks like smoke. It's vapour. All e-cigarettes work basically the same ( way / style / system ). Inside, there's a battery, a heating element, and a cartridge that holds nicotine and other liquids and flavourings. The nicotine inside the cartridges is ( active / addictive / interactive ). When you stop using it, you can get withdrawal symptoms including feeling irritable, ( depressed / impressed / addressed ), restless and anxious. Tests show the levels of dangerous chemicals they give ( off / in / at ) are a fraction of what you'd get from a real cigarette. E-cigarettes have ( cut / stopped / triggered ) a fierce debate among health experts who share the same goal: ( reducing / deducing / renouncing ) the disease and death caused by tobacco.

3. Put the bracketed words in the right tense and / or form. ( 4 marks )

By definition, Cyber bullying occurs among young people. It is a crime that can have legal consequences and involve jail time. Cyber bullying is the use of technology to harass, ( threat ) ....., or embarrass another person. Sometimes cyber bullying can be easy ( spot ) ..... — for example, if your child ( show ) ..... you a text on Facebook that is harsh, mean, or cruel. Cyber bullying can also happen ( accident ) ..... The impersonal nature of text messages and emails makes the sender's tone hardly ( detect ) ..... Because many kids are reluctant to report ( be ) ..... bullied even to their parents, it's impossible to know just how many of them are affected. But recent studies about cyber bullying rates ( find ) ..... that more than half of the teens have experienced abuse through social and digital ( medium ) .....