

**OFFICE DU BACCALAUREAT**

Téléfax (221) 864 67 39 – Tél. : 824 95 92 – 824 65 81

Epreuve du 1^{er} groupe**ANGLAIS****LIBERALISM AND POVERTY REDUCTION**

1 The past half century can be seen as a long exploration of the power of liberal trade to raise living standards, not only
2 in the rich world but among the poor too. It has also, more recently, been an exploration of people's preference, when
3 given the choice, for democracy.

4 The story begins with the growth that took place in Western Europe, North America, Australia and Japan
5 once the two great scourges of economic activity—war and trade restriction—were removed after 1945. These
6 countries were the main signatories of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in 1947 (Japan joined in 1955),
7 which began the process of dismantling trade barriers. That group known as "the West" increased its income per
8 head fourfold in 1950-2001, a growth rate averaging 2.8% a year.

9 The rest of the world—communist, socialist, or just plain poor—also grew, but more slowly: at 2.2% a year on
10 average, or a threefold rise in income per head. This is the gap between the richest few countries in the world and
11 the poorest few, which are mainly in Africa; wider, indeed, than ever before. Sceptics about trade use such increases
12 in global inequality as evidence that under liberalism the rich get richer and the poor stay poor.

13 Such broad figures disguise the underlining trends. These are that countries in Asia have actually been
14 narrowing the gap substantially: there, excluding already developed Japan, in 1950-2001 income per head increased
15 fivefold. In the early decades, Asian growth could be dismissed as exceptional, given that it was limited mainly to the
16 city states of Hong Kong and Singapore, and politically anomalous countries, Taiwan and South Korea. But since
17 1980, not only has growth spread to South East Asia but has also accelerated in the world's most populous
18 countries, China and India.

19 The countries that have succeeded in raising living standards rapidly, over long periods, have followed many
20 varieties of economic policy and have lived under many different forms of government. What they have had in
21 common, though, has been a policy of opening their economies to trade and to foreign capital. Not fully, or even
22 nearly so... Rather they liberalized some markets in order to stimulate competition, internally and from imports; and
23 they ensured that imports of basic commodities and components faced few barriers, in order to keep prices down for
24 users of such goods. They adopted liberal trade partially, selectively and mostly gradually. But the important thing
25 was they adopted it.

The Economist June 28th 2003

I-COMPREHENSON

A/ Match the following ideas with the paragraphs of the text (02 marks)

1. How living conditions have been improved..... (paragraph)
2. A third group of countries..... (paragraph)
3. Countries with the highest living standards..... (paragraph)
4. Liberalism does not help eradicate poverty (paragraph)
5. 50 years of successful free trade (paragraph)

B/ Fill in this table with information from the text. (01 mark)

Countries	Increase in income per capita
Japan	
Communist countries	
Poor countries	
Asian countries	

C/ Are following statements true or for false?

Circle the correct letter and quote the text to justify the choice. (02marks)

1. Liberalism has enabled countries to raise their living standards. T/F?
Quote :
2. In 1950 – 2001 Japan and most Asian countries had the same growth in income per head. T/F
Quote :
3. The countries that succeeded in raising living standards erected customs barriers. T/F
Quote :
4. A common characteristic of successful countries is they have followed various economic policies. T/F
Quote :

D/ Complete the sentences meaningfully with ideas from the text (1, 5 marks)

1. The rise in income per capita in Asia is not exceptional because of.....
.....
2. The GATT aims at.....

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E/ Answer the following questions

(0,75 x 4 = 3marks)

- 1 How have countries managed to raise their living standards ?
- 2 What is the aim of successful countries in lowering customs duties ?
3. Do you agree with the author that liberalism has reduced both poverty and international inequality?
4. What are the effects of opening an economy to trade and foreign capital ?

F / What do the following words or groups of words refer to in the text ?

(01mark)

- a) These (paragraph 4):;
- b) The world's most populous countries (paragraph 4):
- c) That group (paragraph 2):
- d) There (paragraph 4):

II LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE

Exercise 1: Rephrasing the sentences below.

(03 MARKS)

1. Adoption of liberalism resulted in a rise of living standards.
- Because
2. The group known as the "West" increased its income per head but the rest of the world grew more slowly.
- Unlike
3. A Japanese person said "We have raised our living standards fourfold, next year we will raise it fivefold"
- A Japanese person said that.....
4. The other group of countries did not grow rapidly because there were not enough investments.
- If.....
5. We need more significant investments to compensate for the lack of capital in poorer countries.
- Unless.....
6. The lowering of customs duties aims at boosting imports in successful countries.
- Successful countries want.....

Exercise 2: Complete this dialogue meaningfully using the correct form of the verbs in brackets (01 Mark)

7. What is the characteristic of western countries' economies?
-.....(to open)
8. You see competition as the main feature in those countries. Could you tell us how they manage to simulate it?
-.....(to liberalise)

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Exercise 3: Ask the questions that correspond to the following statements.

(01 mark)

9. Due to the high taxes, profits did not rise substantially.

.....

10. We relocated our manufacturing bases to avoid customs duties.

.....

Exercise ; Find in the text words that means :

(01 mark)

11. Quality of personal domestic life (amount of food, clothes bought, size of family car, etc)

.....

12. High duties charged to restrict the import of certain goods.

.....

III / WRITING – Choose letter writing or essay

(04 marks)

Letter writing :

Mr. Brown, Principal of Brikama College – The Gambia, has just received 25 boxes containing the uniforms he ordered from Textiles and Foot Wear Company LTD, Tokyo 160 Japan. On checking the consignment, he discovers that 2 boxes contain uniforms of a different colour.

Which type of letter is Mr. Brown likely to send to his Japanese suppliers? Write it for him

Essay : (about 150 words)

Some countries open their economies to free trade and foreign capital.

Would you advise poor countries like Senegal to open up their economies? Why? or Why not?