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**SESSION 2015**

Durée : 5 heures  
Toutes séries réunies

**CLASSES DE PREMIÈRE**

**ANGLAIS**

1 Before the world economy turned turtle in 2008, the European Union presented an attractive  
2 to the world. Its skepticism about military force and love of global rules was a welcome  
3 counterweight to the cowboy unilateralism of George Bush's America. The issue of climate  
4 change presented a golden opportunity for Europe to flex its soft power, economic muscle and  
5 high-minded internationalism for the good of mankind. Perhaps, mused some, the EU should  
6 rebrand itself the "Environmental Union".

7 The crash, and the devastation unleashed across the euro zone, put paid to all that. But the  
8 environment is back. At their most recent summit, on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, Europe's heads of  
9 government agreed on a climate and energy package that obliges the EU to ensure that by  
10 2030 its emissions of greenhouse gases will be at least 40 % lower than in 1990. To achieve  
11 that goal, each of the 28 members will have to meet its own legally binding target (these remain  
12 to be set). The deal succeeds an earlier one, signed in 2007, under which the EU agreed to a  
13 20 % emissions cut by 2020. It is supposed to pave the way to a reduction worth 80-95 % by  
14 2050.

15 The agreement was hard-fought and complex even by EU standards. Poorer countries such  
16 as Poland, which relies on coal for 90 % of its electricity, demanded and won various  
17 sweeteners to ease their transition to cleaner fuels. Two "sub-targets" of 27 %, on the  
18 renewable share of the energy mix and on improvements to energy efficiency, were included in  
19 the deal but have no teeth (the renewables goal is binding only at "EU level", which leads one to  
20 wonder if the club will sue itself should it be missed). Spain and Portugal secured commitments  
21 to let them export surplus energy over the Pyrenees into France. An accommodation was even  
22 found for Ireland's methane-belching cows.

23 It is not enough, growled the green lobbyists. They fumed that the targets will leave too much  
24 to do to meet the 2050 goal, because later cuts will be much harder to make than earlier ones.  
25 A more ambitious deal was probably politically impossible. But such complaints obscure the  
26 deeper truth : that Europe is on its way to becoming an emissions pygmy. In 2012 the EU  
27 accounted for only 11 % of global greenhouse-gas emissions, next to 16 % for the United  
28 States and 29 % for China. And number will continue to shrink as Europe's economy declines  
29 that relative to the rest of the world.

30 Developing countries argue that Europe has historical responsibilities to discharge, given  
31 the cumulative heat trapping effect of its emissions over the centuries. Fair enough. But one  
32 reason why officials were so keen to strike a deal now is that on the climate (if on little else), the  
33 European example-they believe-can still inspire others. They hope that at a conference in Paris  
34 in December 2015, world leaders will be ready to sign a climate-change compact to govern  
35 emissions after 2020, having failed to do so in Copenhagen five years ago.

36 Indeed, in the run-up to last week's meeting, officials wove a happy fable in which the EU  
37 deal would trigger movement in America, which in turn would inspire China. An "at least"  
38 formulation was attached to the 40 % goal, enabling the EU to ratchet up its contribution if  
39 others show similar ambition.

40 Nor is Europe's influence confined to the "soft" realm of cajoling and persuasion. Officials  
41 in California, for example, made several fact-finding visits to Brussels to investigate the EU's  
42 emissions-trading regime when preparing their own, the world's second-largest (it has since  
43 been extended to Quebec). Before its launch two years ago the Californians told sceptics that  
44 they had learned important lessons from the European example-even if these were largely  
45 about what to avoid.

46 Like so many predecessors, the Paris conference will be billed as the world’s last chance  
 47 to avoid calamitous climate change. This time, developments elsewhere may offer slightly more  
 48 justification for the wilder hopes of European officials, especially when compared with 2007.  
 49 Barack Obama, who has been flexing his regulatory muscles at home, has an eye on his  
 50 environmental legacy, even if a Republican-controlled Congress will do its best to thwart him.  
 51 The Chinese have hinted they may offer a date by when their carbon emissions will peak.

52 So the power of the European example may not be a complete figment of officials’  
 53 imagination. But its power is waning. Already relatively green, the EU risks being taken for  
 54 granted in global climate negotiations ; it is hard to imagine influential countries-China, say, or  
 55 America-making concessions to win the Europeans over. The emissions trading scheme, which  
 56 covers 12,000 industrial polluters and half of Europe’s total carbon emissions, is at the heart of  
 57 the EU’s plans-and it is a farce. The market is massively oversupplied with permits, which now  
 58 trade for little more than € 6 (\$ 7.60) a tonne, meaning there is little incentive to ditch dirty fuels.  
 59 Europe is actually burning more coal than ever. An Anglo-German plan to accelerate a  
 60 withdrawal of permits from the market should help, although the Poles will yet again have to be  
 61 talked round.

62 Although the EU will easily meet its 2020 target, that is thanks largely to its sickly  
 63 economy. Recession is no remedy for climate woes. Indeed, the green rhetoric from European  
 64 officials has lately taken a growth-friendly turn ; with unemployment high and growth prospects  
 65 flat, citizens will not take kindly to energy price rises. As they translate their climate pledges into  
 66 policies, Europe’s governments will have to tread carefully if they are to lead the world without  
 67 leaving behind their voters.

**I. TEXT COMPREHENSION (18 marks)**

**A. Choose a title for the text from the choices below. Circle one option: (1 mark)**

**Green Europe – Greening the World- Greens in the Dark- Battling the Greens**

**B. Find in the first paragraph two opposing philosophies: (2 marks)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**C. Which word indicates that opposition: \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)**

**D. What does “All that” refer to?(L 7): \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**E. Who do the following words apply to? Which feelings do they reflect? (No sentences!) (4 marks)**

Words	Who	Feelings
Growled (L. 23)		
Fumed (L.23)		
Fable (L. 36)		
Farce (L. 57)		

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**F. Indicate from the list below the feelings/attitudes expressed in each statement. (One does not apply): (3 marks)**

**Warning – Accusation – Objection- Scepticism**

Statements	Feeling/Attitude
Developing countries argue that Europe has historical responsibilities to discharge .... over the centuries. (Par.5)	
It is hard to imagine influential countries—China, say, or America—making concessions to win the Europeans over. (Par. 9)	
Europe’s governments will have to tread carefully if they are to lead the world without leaving behind their voters. (Par.10)	

**G. Comment on the following statement. (maximum 4 sentences)**

Developing countries argue that Europe has historical responsibilities to discharge, given the cumulative heat-trapping effects of its emissions over the centuries. (1 mark)

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**H. Read the text and complete the following statements meaningfully(use your own words) (2 marks)**

The green lobbyists fumed against the agreement because \_\_\_\_\_

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Owing to the fact that the market is massively oversupplied with permits \_\_\_\_\_

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**I. Circle True or False. Justify your choice by quoting specific passages from the text (3 marks)**

China accounted for less than a quarter of global greenhouse gas emissions: **T / F**

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The Paris conference was labeled a last chance to prevent disaster compared to the previous one:**T / F**

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China and the U.S will accept Europe taking the lead in the climate negotiations. **T / F**

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**II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (18 marks)**

**J. Complete the following passage using the appropriate forms of the words from the box (2,5 marks)**

**Threat – Friendly – Aware – Mandate – Warm – Cold**

The world has been witnessing drastic climate change over the last centuries. It is therefore urgent that people develop \_\_\_\_\_ of environmental protection. At their recent summit EU member countries set themselves \_\_\_\_\_ objectives to lower their emissions of greenhouse gases. Indeed, the more greenhouse levels rise, the \_\_\_\_\_ the globe becomes. The whole world is \_\_\_\_\_ by greenhouse gases. Such a scourge may result in a hostile and \_\_\_\_\_ environment.

**K. Fill in the gaps with one of the verbs from the box and the appropriate prepositions (2 marks)**

**Deal - Insist – Respond– Believe**

Trust is essential in society because citizens need leaders they strongly \_\_\_\_\_ to tackle problems in society. European citizens therefore count on their governments to \_\_\_\_\_ environmental issues. Efforts are being made to \_\_\_\_\_ their concerns. To raise people's awareness of the issue, it is important to \_\_\_\_\_ the necessity to save the planet. We should not allow irresponsible practices ruin our planet

**L. Read the text and fill in the gaps appropriately. (One word per gap) (1, 5 marks)**

According to figures '(L.30-33), Europe has the \_\_\_\_\_ pollution levels in the industrialized world compared to China whose emissions of Greenhouse gas are the \_\_\_\_\_. In fact they are almost \_\_\_\_\_ as high as the US levels.

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**M. React meaningfully to each situation:**

**(2 marks)**

**Situation 1:** Many industrial facilities on bay areas ditch dirty fuels in the ocean.

**Your reaction:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Situation2. :** The EU will easily meet its 2020 target thanks to its slowing economy.

**Your reaction:** \_\_\_\_\_

**N. Complete this conversation between a journalist and an ecologist using the following**

**words:** Due to – To my mind – Definitely – Had better – It's high time – Unless – If

**(4 marks)**

**Journalist :** Can you tell us more about Greenhouse emissions ?

**Ecologist :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Journalist :** What are the dangers of such gas emissions ?

**Ecologist :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Journalist :** Frankly speaking, do you think that solutions are within reach ?

**Ecologist :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Journalist :** \_\_\_\_\_

**O. Identify 4 idiomatic phrases in paragraphs 1, 3, 8 and 9 related to: (2 marks)**

1-An ideal moment to do something: \_\_\_\_\_

2-Being weak: \_\_\_\_\_

3-: Underestimating the value of something or failing to appreciate someone \_\_\_\_\_

4- A show of force to influence someone : \_\_\_\_\_

**P. Use each idiomatic phrase to express your opinion about the topic: (4 marks)**

Idiom 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Idiom 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Idiom 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Idiom 4: \_\_\_\_\_

**III. WRITING (4x2= 8 marks)****Choose two topics (200-250 words for each topic)**

**TOPIC 1:** Write an article in your local newspaper to complain about the environmental issues faced by your neighborhood and make appropriate recommendations.

**TOPIC 2:** You are the host of a TV talk show. Imagine a hot debate between environmentalists and managers of industrial companies.

**TOPIC 3:** You have been selected by your school to deliver a speech on climate change at the Paris conference. Write your speech.