

**LANGUE VIVANTE I****Epreuve du 1^{er} groupe****ANGLAIS****Insecurity : a global disease**

Do you at times feel that your life and style are vulnerable and uncertain ? You are not alone, millions of people feel that way. Unchecked by national, religious or social barriers, insecurity spreads like a disease, afflicting people from Moscow to Manhattan.

When our life is insecure, we are according to one dictionary : “beset by fear and anxiety”. Anxiety is an emotional burden that produces stress, which can impair our health. But why do we feel insecure ?

Within the European Union (EU), one person in six lives below the poverty line, 18 millions are out of work, and countless others live in fear of losing their jobs. In several other countries parents are horrified because of the presence of pedophiles threatening their children’s lives. In one developed country, 2 people out of 3 are anxious about the threat of crime. Third World inhabitants as well feel increasing alarm because of vandalism, terrorism and pollution.

Life and livelihood are at risk not only because of social aberrations but also because of natural disasters, such as torrential rains, tornadoes, floods, etc...For example, floods struck Central Europe when the Oder and Neisse rivers burst their banks. According to the Polish weekly ‘Polityca’, huge areas of agricultural land were inundated, as well as 86 cities and some 900 villages. About 50,000 households lost their crops, and almost 50 people lost their lives. Mud slides in early 1998 killed thousands of human beings in Southern Italy.

But are we not assured that life is more secure than it was ten years ago ? Did the end of the cold war not mean a scaling down of armed forces ?

Yes, national security has at least improved. However, personal security is affected by what happens in the home and on the street. If we lose our job or if we suspect that a mugger or a pedophile is lurking outside, then even if many weapons are dismantled, we feel anxious and insecure. How are some people coping with the uncertainty of life ? Even more important, is there a way of making everyone’s life, yours included, permanently secure ? That’s a big question to be answered.

AWAKE ! October 2006**Notes:** a mud slide : une coulée de boue.

LANGUE VIVANTE I

I. COMPREHENSION (8 marks)

A. **Table completion : Use information from the text in note form to complete the following table** (2 marks)

DISASTERS	DAMAGES OR LOSSES
The Oder and Neisse burst their banks	1. 2. 3.
4.	A lot of people died in southern Italy.

B. **Circle True or False. Justify your answer quoting a specific passage from the text** (4 marks)

- 5. Insecurity is gaining ground. T / F
.....
- 6. Rich countries are the only ones which are confronted with insecurity. T / F
.....
- 7. According to the narrator, both national and personal security have known noticeable improvement. T / F
.....
- 8. People's lives are not menaced by social aberrations alone. T / F
.....

C. **Vocabulary in context : Find in the indicated paragraphs synonyms for the following words** (0.5 mark)

- 9. Reduction (paragraph 5) :
- 10. Inundations (paragraph 4) :

D. **Contextual reference : What or who do the underlined words refer to in the text ?** (0.5 mark)

- 11. Yours included :
- 12. more secure than it was :

E. **Complete the following summary with words taken from the text.** (1 mark)

In addition to social aberrations, (13) like floods or tornadoes, are (14) people's lives. Now everybody feels more and more (15) because of extreme, unemployment and violence (16).

LANGUE VIVANTE III. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (6 marks)F. Rewrite the following sentences without changing their meaning by using the prompts given (2 marks)

17 They certainly went away because of the floods.
They must

18 I'd rather not live in a big city, there is much violence.
I'd prefer

19. The president won't be re-elected if he doesn't assist the homeless.
Unless

20. People consider that floods are caused by torrential rains.
Floods

G. Word building : Fill in the gaps with the right forms of the words in brackets (2 marks)

21. Many districts are during the rainy season. (flood)

22. and violence are the main causes of people's insecurity in big cities. (rob)

23. They were running away to escape floods, they were attacked by rebels.
(fortune)

24. Pollution is a global problem which is destroying the ozone layer.
(increase)

H. Write appropriate questions and tags to complete the following discussion between these young people who have just escaped a night assault (2 marks)

Sidy - Hey, guys! Everybody's safe, ? (25)

Omar - Thank God, yes! But it was a narrow escape!

Ali - Let's leave this dangerous area,? (26)

Sidy - I think I'll talk to the mayor tomorrow.

Omar - ? (27)

Sidy - I intend to tell him that citizens need street lamps for their security.

Aly - Good idea! You will ask him to urge the police to arrest muggers? (28)

Sidy - Otherwise we won't vote for him in the next elections.

III. WRITING (6 marks)

Choose one topic and write an essay of 150 to 200 words

Topic one : Juvenile delinquency is taking large proportions in many countries. Write about its causes and consequences, then propose solutions to that phenomenon.

Topic two : As the Minister in charge of Hydraulics and Rainwater Management, you deliver a speech to propose sustainable solutions to recurrent inundations in some areas of the country.

LANGUE VIVANTE IANSWER KEY**I. COMPREHENSION****(8 marks)****A. Table completion****(2 marks)**

1. inundations of agricultural lands
2. 50 people died
3. about 50,000 households lost their crops.
4. mud slides in early 1998.

B. True or False with justification**(4 marks)**

5. True : "Unchecked by national, religious or social.....to Manhattan"
6. False : "Third World.....pollution"
7. False : "However, personal security.....on the street"
8. True : "Live and livelihood.....floods etc..."

C. Vocabulary in context**(0.5 mark)**

9. a reduction : a scaling down
10. inundations : floods

D. Contextual reference**(0.5 mark)**

11. yours refers to the reader's life
12. it refers to life

E. Summary Completion**(1 mark)**

13. - natural disasters
14. - threatening
15. - insecure
16. - poverty

II. LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE**(6 marks)****F. Rewriting****(2 marks)**

17. They must have gone away because of the floods.
18. I'd prefer not to live in a big city, there is much violence.
19. Unless the president assists homeless people, he won't be re-elected.
20. Floods are considered to be caused by torrential rains.

G. Word Building**(2 marks)**

21. flooded
22. robbery
23. unfortunately
24. increasingly

H. Asking question**(1 mark)**

25. aren't we?
26. shall we?
27. Why do you want to talk to him? / What do you intend to tell him? / What do you want to talk to him for?
28. won't you?

III. WRITING**(6 marks)**

- **Topic comprehension** 1 mark
- **Organization** 1 mark
- **Language** 1 mark
- **Coherence** 1 mark
- **Consistency** 1 mark
- **Originality** 1 mark