



LANGUE VIVANTE II

Epreuve du 1^{er} groupe

A N G L A I S

China, India Superpower ? Not so Fast!

The media, particularly the financial press, are all agog over the rise of China and India in the international economy. After a long period of relative stagnation, these two countries, nearly two-fifths of the world population, have seen their incomes grow at remarkably high rates over the last two decades. Journalists have referred to their economic reforms and integration into the world economy in all kinds of colorful metaphors. Columnists have sent breathless reports from Beijing and Bangalore about the inexorable competition from these two new whiz kids in a globalized playing field. Others have warned about the momentous implications of “three billion new capitalists,” largely from China and India, redefining the next phase of globalization.

While there is no doubt about the great potential of these two economies in the rest of this century, severe structural and institutional problems will hobble them for years to come. At this point, the hype¹ about the Indian economy seems patently premature, and the risks on the horizon for the Chinese policy – and hence for economic stability – highly underestimated.

Both China and India are still desperately poor countries. Of the total of 2.3 billion people in these two countries, nearly 1.5 billion earn less than US\$2 a day, according to World Bank calculations. Of course, the lifting of hundreds of millions of people above poverty in China has been historic; Thanks to repeated assertions in the international financial press, conventional wisdom now suggests that globalization is responsible for this feat². Yet a substantial part of China's decline in poverty since 1980 already happened by mid-1980s (largely as a result of agricultural growth), before the big strides in foreign trade and investment in the 1990s. Assertions about Indian poverty reduction primarily through trade liberalization are even shakier. In the nineties, the decade of major trade liberalization, the rate of decline in poverty by some aggregative estimates has, if anything slowed down. In any case, India is as yet a minor player in world trade, contributing less than one percent of world exports. (China's share is about 6 percent).

Pranab Bardhan

Yale Global, 25 October 2005.

¹ Exaggerated promotion or advertisement

² Great change

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I-READING COMPREHENSION (08 points)

A-True/False statements: Are these statements true or false?

Justify with a specific line from the text.

(01,5 point)

1. The press shows little interest in the development of China and India.
2. Most of the population in India and China are poor.
3. In China, the reduction of poverty started before the era of globalization.

B- Multiple choice : Choose a, b or c to complete the sentences. (01,5 point)

Commentators generally think that China and India:

4. will have a place at the firmament of globalization.
5. have changed the present context of globalization.
6. have little chance to influence the context of globalization.

In “assertions about the reduction of Indian poverty primarily through trade liberalization are even shakier” we understand that:

7. believing in those assertions is ridiculous.
8. Trade liberalization caused poverty reduction.
9. The assertions have already been proved right.

After reading the passage, we know the author believes that China and India:

10. Can rise to superpowers with struggle and patience.
11. Becoming superpowers is utopian thinking.
12. Will be handicapped by poverty forever.

C -Information transfer: Complete the table according to the text. (02 points)

COUNTRY	CHINA	INDIA
13 Reasons for poverty reduction according to assertions		
14 Contribution in world trade		

D -Reference: What do these words refer to in the text? (01,5 point)

15“these two new whiz kids” (P.1):

16“this century” (P.2):

17“this feat” (P.3):

E- Vocabulary in context: Find in the text synonyms for these words. (01,5 point)

18 positive comparisons (P.1)

19Handicap (P.2)

20 Important advances (P.3)

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I-COMMUNICATIVE/ LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE (06 points)

F. Match the underlined words or phrases in Column A with their functions in Column B (01,5 point)

Column A	Column B
21...and <u>while</u> economic stability...	a) Contrast
22 Earn less than US\$2 a day, <u>according to</u> world bank calculations.	b) Simultaneity
23 <u>Yet</u> a substantial part of China's decline...	c) Consequence
	d) Opinion

21 ----- 22 ----- 23 -----

G. Fill in the blanks with the following, adding the appropriate suffix or prefix. (01,5 point)

RESPECTFUL, FAIL, CREDIBLE

- 24. The _____ of the talks was regrettable. (fail)
- 25. The story was too _____ to be true. (credible)
- 26. It's _____ of you to insult that old man. (respectful)

H Complete the sentences with a tag. (01,5 point)

- 27. Daddy used to be a good footballer,.....?
- 28. Noboby can jump into fire and be safe,.....?
- 29. I am good-looking,.....?

I. Each of these sentences contains a mistake.

Find the mistakes and write the correct sentences. (01,5 point)

- 30.They are married for twenty years now.
.....
- 31. How long is Nioro from Farafenni? 27 km.
.....
- 32. They asked me what was the time.
.....

III- WRITING Choose one topic (150 to 200 words / 15 to 20 lines)

Topic 1 : Do you think that a united Africa could one day be a superpower ? Why or why not ?

Topic 2 : What, in your opinion, should the role of women be in the development of African countries ?

LANGUE VIVANTE IIEpreuve du 1^{er} groupeCORRECTION KEYI- READING COMPREHENSION (08 points)**A True/ False statements** (01,5 point)

1(False) : “the financial press, are all agog over the rise of China and India” / “Columnists have sent breathless reports”

2(True) : “nearly 1,5 billion earn less than US\$2 a day”

3(True) : “Yet a substantial part of China’s decline in poverty since 1980 already happened by mid-1980s”

B Multiple – choice (01,5 point)

Commentators generally think that China and India :

4-Will have a place at the firmament of globalization.

In “assertions about the reduction of Indian poverty primarily through trade liberalization are even shakier” **we understand that :**

7-believing in those assertions is ridiculous.

After reading the passage, we know the author believes that China and India /

10-can rise to superpowers with struggle and patience.

1. Information transfer (02 points)

COUNTRY	CHINA	INDIA
13.Reasons for poverty reduction according to assertions	Globalization	Trade liberalisation
14.Contribution in world trade	About 6 %	Less than 1 %

D Reference (01,5 point)

15.China and India

16.21st century

17.the lifting of hundreds of millions of people above poverty.

E Vocabulary in context (01,5 point)

18. colorful metaphors

19. hobble

20 big strides

II- COMMUNICATIVE/LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE (06 points)**F. What do these words express?** (01,5 point)

21-While: simultaneity

22-According to : opinion

23-Yet : contrast

G. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate words from the box. (01,5 point)

24- failure

25- incredible

26- disrespectful

H. Complete the sentences with a tag. (01,5 point)

27- didn't he ?

28- can they ?

29- aren't I ?

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I. These sentences are false. Correct them.

(01,5 point)

- 30 -hey have been married for twenty years now.
- 31 how far is Niuro from Farafenni? 27km.
- 32 They asked me what the time was;

III- WRITING (06 points)

- Ideas : (02 points)**
- Coherence : (02 points)**
- Correctness : (02 points)**