

LANGUE VIVANTE IEpreuve du 1<sup>er</sup> groupeANGLAIS**Africa's jobless youth cast a shadow over economic growth**

African governments are confronting unemployment in many different ways. In Senegal, with 200,000 Senegalese joining the labor market each year, a programme was launched in February 2013 to create 30,000 jobs within a year. The African Development Bank is financing some of Senegal's self-employment programs for youth and women.

5 Youths account for 60% of all of Africa's jobless, according to the World Bank. In North Africa, the youth unemployment rate is 25% but is even greater in Botswana, the Republic of Congo, Senegal, and South Africa, among others. With 200 million people aged between 15 and 24, Africa has the largest population of young people in the world, they added. In most African countries, youth unemployment is twice higher than that of adults, notes the African Development Bank. Young women feel the effects of unemployment even more sharply than young men. The 10 African Development Bank found that in most countries in sub-Saharan Africa and all of those in North Africa, it is easier for men to get jobs than it is for women, even if they have the same skills and experiences.

15 Africa's unemployment statistics exclude those in vulnerable employment and those who are underemployed in informal sectors. Many young African university graduates are doing menial jobs. "Young Africans find work, but not in places that pay good salaries, develop skills or provide a measure of job security", reports the Brookings Institution. This Institution considers underemployment a problem serious enough to deserve greater attention, since it masks the reality in countries that post low unemployment rates. "In some African countries, more than 70% 20 of the youth are either self-employed or contributing to family work", adds the Brookings Institution report.

Alexander Chikwanda, Zambia's former finance minister, put it succinctly in an interview: "Youth unemployment is a ticking time bomb", that now appears to be perilously close to exploding. The analogy draws attention to the consequences of high youth unemployment in a 25 continent where about 10-12 million young people join the labor market each year. "In North Africa, the Arab Spring has shown that a lack of employment opportunities can undermine social cohesion and political stability".

**By Kingsey Ighobor from Africa Renewal: Special Edition on youth 2017**

**LANGUE VIVANTE I**

**I. READING COMPREHENSION (08 marks)**

A. Match the statements in column A with their equivalents in the text in column B.

(2x1= 2 pts)

Column A	Column B
En Afrique, beaucoup de diplômés de l'université sont sous-employés.	1-
Le chômage peut fragiliser la cohésion nationale.	2-

B. What do the underlined words refer to in the text?

(0.5 X 2 = 1 pt)

3- It (parag.3): \_\_\_\_\_

4- The analogy (parag.4): \_\_\_\_\_

C. Fill in the chart below with facts and figures from the text.

(0.5 X 3 = 1.5 pts)

	Figures	Facts
Youth unemployment in Africa	5- _____	Joblessness in Africa
	6- _____	Joblessness in North Africa
	70%	7- _____

D- These statements are FALSE. Justify them with relevant information from the text.

(1 X 2 = 2 pts)

8. In Africa, there is no gender discrimination in the job market.

Justification: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Youth unemployment is not a real menace to national stability in Africa.

Justification: \_\_\_\_\_

E- Experts and Institutions have different opinions about youth unemployment in Africa. Match them in the table below. One option does not apply:

(0.5 X 5 = 1.5 pts)

Experts and institutions	Opinions
10-Alexander Chikwanda	A-African countries deal with youth unemployment differently.
11-Brookings Institution	B-Youth joblessness is a menace in Africa.
12-The author	C-There are more young people in Africa than in any other continent.
	D-Young Africans who get jobs are not well paid.

**LANGUE VIVANTE I**

**Your answers:** (just the letters) 10=\_\_\_\_\_ 11=\_\_\_\_\_ 12=\_\_\_\_\_

**II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (06 marks)**

**F. Complete the passage below with suitable words derived from the ones in brackets. (0.5 X 4 = 2 pts)**

The large number of low-paying jobs and unemployment illustrate the (13) \_\_\_\_\_ (vulnerable) of young job seekers in the African labor market. Such a situation can cause social (14) \_\_\_\_\_ (stability). If left uncontrolled, youth unemployment can have serious social consequences because (15) \_\_\_\_\_ (employed) young people tend to feel excluded from society. In fact, youth (16) \_\_\_\_\_ (jobless) can lead to anxiety and lack of hope.

**G. Complete meaningfully this conversation between two young university graduates who have just got jobs. (2 pts)**

**Fatu:** Congrats, Modu! I heard you got a job!

**Modu:** Thanks, Fatu! Fortunately, a good one that matches my expectations.

**Fatu:** Boy, how (17) \_\_\_\_\_ you are!

**Modu:** How about you? Have you (18) \_\_\_\_\_ anything yet?

**Fatu:** Well, unlike you, (19) \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Modu:** Sorry about that but don't give up!

**H. Match the notions in (B) with the statements in (A). (0.5 X 4 = 2 marks)**

**Regret – Fact – Prohibition – Suggestion – Opinion**

(A) Statements	(B) Notions
20. Africa's unemployment statistics show that those in vulnerable employment and the under-employed are socially marginalized.	_____
21. Youth unemployment seems to be without solutions in Africa. However, a number of African governments keep on making efforts to solve this problem.	_____
22. What about providing African university graduates with decent jobs?	_____
23. It is really a pity that some African governments haven't been able to reduce youth unemployment.	_____

**III. WRITING: Choose one topic and write about 200 words on it. (6 pts)**

**TOPIC 1:** Adama, a young African university graduate who can't get a decent job has decided to be a "Barça" or "Barsax" candidate for illegal immigration. Write a dialogue in which you try to dissuade him from going abroad.

**TOPIC 2:** One of your friends who has come back to Senegal after her graduation from a prestigious European university finds it difficult to get a job. She writes an email to ask for advice. Write her back to tell her what to do.