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LANGUE VIVANTE II

Epreuve du 2ème groupe

ANGLAIS

Youth unemployment has increasingly become a threat to stability and peace in Sub-Saharan Africa, as the recent positive economic growth observed in many African countries did not stimulate job growth opportunities for younger generations.

In Senegal, the economy is dominated by agriculture and informal activities that generate 92 % of traditional and self-employed jobs. However, the evident low agricultural productivity is a serious handicap that hinders the ability of the sector to provide adequate jobs. Indeed, 53 % of the workforce is in the agricultural sector but generates only 16 % of Gross Domestic Product. Productivity in the agricultural sector is about five times lower than what is displayed by the industry and service sectors. A root cause of this situation is that urbanization has not stimulated industrialization. As a consequence, an army of young people, mostly migrants from rural areas, live in the suburbs with little hope to access gainful employment.

To resolve the youth unemployment question, decision makers should find new strategies. First, youth policies targeted at reducing unemployment and increasing job opportunities require a holistic approach to the problem. Because the labor force is predominantly in the agricultural sector, policies targeting youth employment must consider these structural realities. Agriculture should be modernized and farmers transformed into successful entrepreneurs. This is only possible if the necessary steps are taken to achieve higher productivity and better incomes. Second, given that the recent economic growth in Senegal did not lead to job creation for youth, it is imperative to devise growth strategies targeting key development sectors that generate jobs. Besides prioritizing agriculture as a development lever, extractive industry, agro-industry and manufacturing industry are niches which deserve close examination. Finally, young people require adequate training and access to information and capital. The challenge for governments is to find ways to provide all these essential components at affordable cost.

Ultimately, the empowerment of the youth through specific support mechanisms is inevitable if effective solutions to youth unemployment are found. Above all, we must ensure their voices are heard because they are integral to the policy process.

Adapted from: https://africaupclose.wilsoncenter.org/youth-unemployment.

I. READING COMPREHENSION (8 marks)

A. Find in the indicated paragraph the synonym for these words: (0.5 x 2 = 1 mark)

- 1. Menace (parag. 1):
2. To block (parag. 2):

B. Find in the text the equivalents of these phrases in French :

(1 x 2 = 2 marks)

Table with 2 columns: Phrases in French, Equivalents in the text. Row 1: Faire de l'agriculture un levier de développement. Row 2: Peu de chance d'accéder à des emplois rémunérateurs.

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C. Read the text and put the phrases in the right column of the problems and solutions to low agricultural productivity: (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

Adequate training / Youngsters moving to suburbs / Prioritizing agriculture / Inability to give adequate jobs.

Low agricultural productivity	
2 problems	2 solutions
5.....	7.....
6.....	8.....

D. Statement 7 is FALSE. Statement 8 is TRUE. Quote specific passages from the text to give justifications. (1 x 2 = 2 marks)

9. Agriculture gives good jobs to a lot of young people today: **FALSE.**

Justification :

10. Compared to other economic sectors, agriculture has the highest number of workers: **TRUE.**

Justification :

E. What do the following words refer to in the text ? (0.5 x 2 = 1 mark)

The sector (parag. 1) : 11

The problem (parag. 2) : 12

II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (6 marks)

F. Fill in the gaps with the right tenses and forms of the verbs in parentheses : (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

Every year, hundreds of migrants take the risk of crossing the desert or risking their lives in the ocean where they (13. **to rescue**) by coast guards from the devastating fury of the sea. Unfortunately, those who try the journey across the Sahara desert are not lucky enough. They often end up being (14. **to catch**) and sold as slaves. If nothing is done, the situation (15. **to get**) worse. It's high time authorities (16. **to find**) solutions by giving more job opportunities for the youth to stay in their countries.

G. Fodé, an unemployed young man, is discussing with his friend Niokhor. Complete their conversation meaningfully with the right questions or tags:

(0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

Niokhor : You've seen the job offer in a newspaper, ? (17)

Fodé : No, I haven't.

Niokhor : A new company is looking for an administrative assistant.

Fodé : Really ? ? (18)

Niokhor : No, I don't know how much they pay, but it's better than being jobless.

Fodé : For sure ! Well, send me the details, ? (19)

Niokhor : Sure!

Fodé : ? (20)

Niokhor : The job applications will stop at the latest by end of February.

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**H. Match each statement with the notion it expresses. (One does not apply) :
(0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)**

Wish / Obligation / Disagreement / Possibility / Impossibility

Statements	Notions
It is African governments' duty to create job opportunities for their youth.	21.
Africa can't develop without an active youth population.	22.
If only young people were aware of the dangers !	23.
The authorities shouldn't have let young people risk their lives to reach Europe.	24.

III. WRITING (6 marks)

Choose one topic and write about 150 words.

TOPIC 1 : Letter writing. Fatou has noticed that there are more and more young unemployed in Senegal. As the chairperson of the youth association in her district, she writes a letter to the Minister of Labour to complain about the situation.

TOPIC 2 : Conversation. Simon is Moussa's friend. He is jobless and wants to migrate to Europe by boat. Moussa is trying to dissuade him. Write down their conversation.