



LANGUE VIVANTE II

Epreuve du 1^{er} groupe

ANGLAIS

Skin whitening

Skin whitening covers a variety of cosmetic methods used to lighten the skin. It is most common in parts of Africa and Asia. It is a controversial topic and a harmful practice with detrimental effects on health, identity, self-image, racial supremacy and colonial mentality.

In richer countries, people are increasingly comfortable and successful regardless of **their** natural skin colour. Nevertheless, in many African countries like Senegal, trying to change one's skin colour is still seen as a way "to be in". There is no gender, age, social status to practice skin whitening. Everyone has their own reasons to use lightening products.

According to a journalist, "some Senegalese women are trying to look like the white stars **they** see on TV." Skin lightening products are available in the forms of cream, lotion, soap, etc... A hairdresser said she had used the creams because it is more beautiful and men prefer women with lighter skin.

Experts say that the effects of skin whitening can be devastating, "We have diagnosed the first cases of skin cancer with women who have been using those creams for a long time. Infection, acne and facial hair growth are other side effects women face. Despite campaigns to raise women's awareness of its dangers, skin whitening is still rising."

Adapted from <http://abcnews.com/international/story>

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I. READING COMPREHENSION (8 marks)

A. Complete this passage with words from the indicated paragraphs. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

Nowadays, many people use different products to lighten their skins. However, these products can be 1. (Parag. 1) to their health. In fact, young people especially do that to 2. (Parag. 3) like some celebrities. Despite 3..... (Parag. 4) campaigns by experts, the practice of skin lightening is still 4. (Parag. 4) in most of these countries.

B. Fill in this table with specific information from the text. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

Skin lightening	Some products	Bad consequences	Places where it is mainly practiced
	Soap 5.	6. 7. Infection	8.

C. Statement 9 is FALSE and statement 10 is TRUE. Justify with specific passages from the text. (1 x 2 = 2 marks)

- 9. In developing countries, skin lightening is practiced by poor people only. **FALSE:**
(Justification):
- 10. Some women whiten their skins just to please men. **TRUE:**
(Justification):

D. Complete this sentence meaningfully with another phrase from paragraph 2. (1 x 1 = 1 mark)

People who practice skin lightening know that it has negative impacts on their health and identity, but they have their 11.

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

- 12. **their** (Parag. 2):
- 13. **they** (Parag. 3):

II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (6 marks)

F. Ndeye Fatou, a young girl, has serious skin problems. She's meeting the dermatologist for help. Complete their conversation meaningfully. (0.5 x 5 = 2.5 marks)

Ndeye Fatou: Good morning, doctor!
Doctor: Good morning, young lady. Please, sit down! What? (14)
Ndeye Fatou: I have skin problems.
Doctor: Let me see. You practice skin lightening, you? (15)
Ndeye Fatou: Yes I do!
Doctor: Tell me, ? (16)
Ndeye Fatou: For about two years now.
Doctor: do you use? (17)
Ndeye Fatou: I use all sorts of creams, doctor.
Doctor: Don't use them (any / no) more! (18) Take this prescription and go to the pharmacy to buy this medicine.
Ndeye Fatou: Thank you, doctor! I'll never lighten my skin again!
Doctor: Come and see me in three weeks! Goodbye!

G. Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the words in brackets. (0.5 x 3 = 1.5 marks)

A lot of Senegalese women practice skin lightening to 19. (pleasure) their men. This shows how 20. (conscious) they are as far as their health is concerned. No matter how 21. (danger) the practice can be, they will find it hard to give it up.

H. Combine the parts in Column A with those in Column C using the connectors in Column B to make meaningful sentences. (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

Column A	Column B	Column C
22. Cosmetic companies advertise their products	As a result, because despite in order to	its negative impacts on women's health, identity and self-image.
23. Skin whitening is gaining ground		fight against skin whitening.
24. The products are offered at very low prices.		they are accessible to all users.
25. Authorities must vote strict laws		they want to make big profits.

Answers:

- 22. Cosmetic companies advertise their products
- 23. Skin whitening is gaining ground
- 24. The products are offered at very low prices.
- 25. Authorities must vote strict laws

III. WRITING Choose one topic and write about 150 words. (6 marks)

- TOPIC 1:** Two friends, Fatou and Khady, are discussing skin whitening. Fatou is trying to convince Khady to stop the practice of skin whitening. Write their conversation.
- TOPIC 2:** Samba is a dermatologist. He writes an article in a newspaper to inform people about the negative effects of skin lightening. Write his article.