

**LANGUE VIVANTE II****ANGLAIS**

Saudi women woke up on Wednesday knowing they will soon be able to drive legally for the first time in the ultra-conservative kingdom's history after years of campaigning by activists inside and outside the country. King Salman's royal decree said women would be allowed to drive cars «in accordance with Islamic laws », and will come into place in June 2018.

His decision comes after years of criticism pointed towards Saudi Arabia as the only country in the world not to allow women to drive, and just a week after a Saudi cleric was suspended for saying women should not be allowed to drive because they have a « quarter » the brain size of men.

The discrimination against women and their ability to drive have caused significant damage to the kingdom's reputation around the world, and lifting the controversial ban will go some way to offsetting some of the criticism.

Women live under a draconian system of guardianship in Saudi Arabia, **one** where they require the permission of a male guardian usually a father, or a husband, to carry out daily activities.

By Jack Moore on 9 / 27/17 FROM The Washington Post

I. COMPEHENSION (8 marks)**A. Vocabulary in context : Find in the indicated paragraphs the equivalents of : (2 marks)**

1. To be able to : _____ (Par. 1) ; Image : _____ (Par.3)
2. Interdiction : _____ (Par. 3) ; Severe : _____ (Par. 4)

B. Read the text and circle the letter corresponding to the right answer (3 marks)**3. A good title for the text could be (1 mark)**

- a. Gender discrimination in Saudi Arabia
- b. Now Saudi women can drive
- c. Islam in Saudi Arabia

4. An official decree would allow Saudi women to drive..... (1 mark)

- a- without taking into consideration Islamic law.
- b- with little importance given to Islamic law.
- c- taking into consideration Islamic law.

5. The Saudi cleric was suspended because he declared that..... (1 mark)

- a. Women and men are intellectually equal.
- b. Women are intellectually inferior to men.
- c. Women are intellectually superior to men.

C. All the following statements are false. Justify by quoting a specific passage from the text. (2 marks)

6. Saudi women have been permitted to drive for a long time. False

Justification : _____

7. Saudi women are free to carry out daily activities. False

Justification _____

D. Who do the following words refer to in the text ? (1 mark)

8. **His** (His decision, par. 2) = _____
 9. **(One, par. 4)** = _____

II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (7 marks)

Complete the following passage with the correct options (2 marks)

Nowadays, women are allowed 10- _____ (**driving – drive – to drive**) every where in the world. However, this 11- _____ (**hasn't been – wasn't – isn't**) the case in Saudi Arabia a few years ago. According to a new report, only three countries 12- _____ (**was – is – are**) behind the kingdom in terms of gender parity. If nothing is done to change this situation, discrimination against women 13- _____ (**would – would have – will**) tarnish the country's reputation.

Complete meaningfully the interview between a journalist and a Saudi woman (3 marks)

Journalist : You're allowed to drive now, 14- _____ you ?

Saudi woman : That's it and I am really satisfied now.

Journalist : How _____ ? 15-

Saudi woman : Our fight has lasted a pretty long time!

Journalist : Do _____ ?- 16

Saudi woman : **No**, I don't think the King will come back on his decision. You know, It's an historical decision ! Our dignity _____ 17-

Journalist : You are very optimistic, _____ ? -18

Saudi woman : I am indeed. This has been a bold step forward, and there's no turning back !

Journalist : Thanks for answering my questions.

Saudi woman : _____ -19

10. Read the statements in the table then choose from the box below the notions they correspond to. (2 marks)

contrast – reason- inability – ability- permission

| Statements | Notions |
|---|---------|
| 20. Saudi women are now allowed to drive . | |
| 21. Gender parity remains an illusion despite the new measures ... | |
| 22. A saudi cleric was suspended for saying ' women... | |
| 23. Saudi women can't carry out daily activities without permission. | |

III. WRITING : Choose one topic and write about 150 words on it. (5 marks)

Topic 1 : You believe in women's ability to carry out the same jobs as men. Your friend disagrees with you. Write out your conversation.

Topic 2 : Women's Associations around the world have been fighting for gender parity. You strongly believe that women should have the same rights as men. Develop your arguments coherently and give relevant examples.