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Séries : L'1-L2 – Coef. 4

Série : L1a – Coef. 2

Série: L1b – Coef. 3

LANGUE VIVANTE I**Epreuve du 2^e groupe****ANGLAIS****Balancing Politeness and Honesty**

Sometimes the reason for showing politeness to others is to avoid hurting them. Being impolite or rude could lead to conflict, awkwardness or shame. Being polite, therefore, can mean being dishonest, fraudulent or even lying. On the one hand, if you are always completely honest and straightforward with people, you will probably be considered rude and incapable of socializing. This could well mean that you have fewer friends and less opportunity to gain new social experiences. On the other, if you try to avoid affecting people's feelings all the time, you will probably not be representing a true picture of yourself and therefore be dishonest.

Some people find it difficult to say 'no' when they are asked to do something, for fear of offending. This can be problematic if you take on too many tasks because you never say 'no' and you will possibly find yourself in a situation where you are completing tasks to no one's satisfaction. Dissatisfaction with personal performance can be very stressful and negatively affect self-esteem, **which** in turn may make saying 'no' even more difficult.

In all social situations, you need to use common-sense and good judgement; they come with experience. Experience, in turn, comes from observing others and from making mistakes, learning what is acceptable and what is not. Generally, dishonesty and insincerity can be easily recognized by others and can affect your relationships negatively. However, there are occasions when not being totally honest can aid social interactions.

In life, we all have to manage a balance between politeness and honesty. Such balance will be dependent on many factors. In fact, it is important to remember that "**you** cannot please all of the people all of the time."

Adapted from: <https://www.skillsyouneed.com/polite-vs-honest.html>

LANGUE VIVANTE I

I. READING COMPREHENSION : (8 marks)

A. Read paragraphs 1 and 2 and then complete the chart below. (0.5 X 4 = 2 marks)

Two consequences of being impolite	Two consequences of real honesty
1. _____	3. _____
2. _____	4. _____

B. These statements are all FALSE. Justify them with specific information from the text. (1 X 2 = 2 marks)

5. It is easy to tell who is honest and who is not.

Justification: _____

6. Being dishonest is never accepted in society.

Justification: _____

C. Complete this passage with adequate words from the indicated paragraphs of the text. (0.5 X 4 = 2 marks)

When we communicate, or interpret others' attempts to communicate, we are faced with decisions to make with honesty and (7) _____ (**parag.1**). Sometimes you may make positive comments on people's behaviour or physical appearance so as not to hurt their (8) _____ (**parag.1**). In fact, criticizing people's misconduct can impact social relations (9) _____ (**parag.3**). For this reason, some people always (10) _____ (**parag.4**) to find an equilibrium between courtesy and honesty.

D. Read paragraphs 2 and 4 and then find the equivalent of this situation. (1 X 1 = 1 mark)

Situation	Equivalent in the text
Parfois, prendre des libertés avec la vérité peut préserver les relations sociales.	11. _____ _____

E. What or who do the underlined words in the text refer to? (0.5 X 2 = 01 mark)

12. which (parag.2): _____

13. you (parag.4): _____

II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE: (06 marks)

F. Match the notions in the box with the statements in the chart. One does not apply! (0.5 X 4 = 2 marks)

Possibility – Obligation – Sequencing – Opposition – Advice

Statements	Notions
14. To strengthen social relationships, we need to balance politeness and honesty.	
15. Some people think that real honesty means having poor social skills. On the other hand, if you try to avoid affecting people's feelings all the time, you will not be representing a true picture of yourself.	
16. It is important to remember that you can never please all of the people all of the time.	
17. Dissatisfaction with personal performance can be very stressful and negatively affect self-esteem.	

LANGUE VIVANTE IEpreuve du 2^e groupe

- G. Complete meaningfully this extract of an interview between a journalist and an activist who advocates the restoration of moral values in our society. (2.5 marks)

Journalist: Thank you ever so much for accepting this interview... Well, you're perceived as a very vocal activist!

Activist: If you mean by vocal, voicing people's concerns, yes I (18) _____!

Journalist: You have been advocating the restoration of moral values in our society for years now.

Activist: Definitely! In fact, we have noticed that our moral values are often (19) _____.

Journalist: What strategies are you applying to _____ (20) your goals?

Activist: Well, we have undertaken a variety of actions, ranging from awareness campaigns, conferences to debates on our different platforms.

Journalist: Have Senegalese citizens really adhered to your views and actions?

Activist: Actually, some people misunderstand our aim, but we strongly believe that as long as _____, _____ (21)

- H. Complete the passage below with adequate words derived from the ones in brackets. (0.5 X 3 = 1.5 marks)

Politeness can prevent us from affecting people's feelings and emotions in order to create greater (22) _____ (**understand**) in society. Some people believe that doing this intentionally means being (23) _____ (**honest**) and deceitful to them. Others consider that showing politeness to people can sometimes mean refraining from hurting them, which is a (24) _____ (**nature**) way of avoiding conflicts and strengthening social relationships.

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

TOPIC 1: Adama and Awa are twin sisters. The first is often disrespectful and impolite to people whereas the second is always respectful and polite. Write a conversation in which Awa is trying to convince her twin sister to change her attitude.

TOPIC 2: Maguette, a Senegalese student, is writing an email to his/ her friend who lives abroad to tell him/ her about the importance of respecting moral values such as honesty and politeness.

ANSWER KEY**I. READING COMPREHENSION:****(8 marks)****A. Chart completion:****(0.5 X 4 = 2 marks)**

1. Conflict
 2. awkwardness/ shame
 3. you will probably be considered rude
 4. incapable of socializing

B. FALSE statements:**(1 X 2 = 2 marks)**

5. "Generally, dishonesty and insincerity can be easily recognized by others and can affect your relationships negatively."
 6. there are occasions when not being totally honest can aid social interactions.

C. Cloze passage:**(0.5 X 4 = 2 marks)**

7. politeness
 8. feelings
 9. negatively
 10. manage

D. Finding the equivalent of the situation:**(1 X 1 = 1 mark)**

11. "there are occasions when not being totally honest can aid social interactions."

E. Contextual references:**(0.5 X 2 = 1 mark)**

12. Dissatisfaction with personal performance can be very stressful and negatively affect self-esteem
 13. the reader(s) / people

II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE:**(6 marks)****F. Matching notions with statements:****(0.5 X 4 = 2 marks)**

14. Obligation
 15. Opposition
 16. Advice
 17. Possibility

G. Interview completion:**(0.5 X 4 = 2 marks)**

18. Yes I am
 19. Any coherent and grammatically correct answer (flouted, disregarded, challenged ...)
 20. reach/achieve/meet
 21. Any grammatically correct and meaningful answer

H. Word derivation:**(0.5 X 3 = 1.5 marks)**

22. understanding
 23. dishonest
 24. natural

III. WRITING:**(06 marks)**

- Topic understanding: (1 mark)
- Organisation: (1 mark)
- Coherence: (1 mark)
- Relevance: (1 mark)
- Accuracy: (1 mark)
- Originality: (1 mark)