RÉPUBLIQUE ET CANTON DE NEUCHÂTEL

DÉPARTEMENT DE L'ÉDUCATION ET DE LA FAMILLE
SERVICE DES FORMATIONS POSTOBLIGATOIRES ET DE L'ORIENTATION

## EXAMENS CANTONAUX D'ADMISSION DANS LES FILIÈRES DE MATURITÉS DU SECONDAIRE 2

POUR ÉLÈVES ISSU•E•S D'ÉCOLES PRIVÉES OU SCOLARISÉ•E•S À DOMICILE

SESSION 2023
ANGLAIS - durée : 45 minutes

Nom et prénom:

Date de naissance : $\qquad$

Consignes spécifiques

Dictionnaire papier bilingue fourni dans le cadre de l'examen.

ZONE RÉSERVÉE AUX CORRECTIONS

POINTS OBTENUS :

## PART 1 READING COMPREHENSION

## Exercise 1 Read the text and answer the questions on the next page.

## Places and languages

## 1.

There are over one hundred and ninety countries in the world and about seven thousand languages. In first place is China. There are over one billion speakers of Mandarin Chinese. In second place is India with speakers of Hindi. And in third place is Spanish. Spain isn'† a big country, but there are over four hundred million Spanish speakers in different countries around the world. This is very true in Latin America.

## 2.

As a first language, English is in fourth place. About three hundred and eighty million people are native English speakers. But English is in first place as a second language for many other people. Over a billion people speak English for doing business, reading the news or studying science and medicine. In some countries, English is not the native language, but it is the official language for the government and in schools. And even in London, the capital city of Britain, there are over three hundred different languages.

## 3.

Chinese, Hindi, Spanish and English are the 'big' languages. About eighty per cent of the world's population speak them. But these are only four languages, so what about the other 6,996 languages? Many countries have lots of different languages. For example, on the islands of Vanuatu in the South Pacific Ocean there are sixty-five different islands and they have one hundred and nine different languages.

## 4.

Finally, there are some languages with only one speaker. They are old people and they speak the language of their parents and grandparents. For example, Charlie Muldunga lives in Australia. He speaks English because it is the first language of the
country. However, his native language is Amurdag. It's an ancient language and he is the last speaker of this Aboriginal language.

Places and languages English Rooms. Retrieved March 12 2023, from
https://english-rooms.com/test/elementary-reading-test-places-and-languages

## Questions regarding the text. Choose the best possible answer.

1. What does the text say?
$\square$ It's important to speak at least two languages
$\square$ There's no country with only one official language
$\square$ Many people use English for business reasons
2. For each paragraph (1 to 4) choose the most appropriate title from the list below. Pay attention, there is one extra!
a) The other almost 7000 languages
b) English as a global language
c) Languages in Australia
d) First place and first language
e) The last speakers

For each assertion, say if it is true (T), false (F), or not mentioned (NT).

| Assertion | T | F | NT |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| English is on the top three of the most spoken first languages in the <br> world. |  |  |  |
| There are 190 countries in the world. |  |  |  |
| In Latin America there are more Spanish speakers than in Spain. |  |  |  |
| There are countries where English isn't the population's mother tongue <br> but is officially used at school and in the administration. |  |  |  |
| English is the first language for over a billion of people. |  |  |  |
| There are over 300 languages in London. |  |  |  |


| Only $\sim 20 \%$ of the world's people don't speak Hindi, English, Chinese or <br> Spanish. |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| The islands of Vanuatu are divided into 109 different islands. |  |  |
| Charlie Muldunga only speaks the Aboriginal language Amurdag. |  |  |
| Amurdag is one of the official languages in Australia. |  |  |

Exercise 2-Read the text again and find the words in the text that match the definitions. Find also the opposites ( $\ddagger$ ) of the last 2 words:

1. A speaker of a particular language who has spoken that language since earliest childhood (noun): $\qquad$
2. The activity of buying and selling commodities, products, or services (noun):
3. The political direction and control exercised over the actions of the members, citizens, or inhabitants of communities, societies, and states; direction of the affairs of a state, community, etc .(noun): $\qquad$
4. Principal; highly important (adjective): $\qquad$
5. The science and art of diagnosing and treating disease or injury and maintaining health (noun): $\qquad$
6. Authorized by a proper authority; authoritative (adjective): $\qquad$
7. same $=$ $\qquad$
8. recent $\neq$ $\qquad$

## PART 2 WRITING

The holidays are only a few weeks away and you probably have plans for them (if not, make something up). What are you going to do? Write a short text about it.

In your text, talk about:

- where you are going
- how you are traveling
- when you are leaving and for how long
- who you are going with
- where you are staying (kind of accommodation)
- which activities you are planning to do

Don't forget to write your text in the near future!
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
/ 20 pts

## Exercise 1-Choose the correct option (a, bor c) for each blank.

1. Elizabeth Alexandra Mary was born $\qquad$ $21^{\text {st }}$ April 1926.
a) on
b) in
c) $a t$
2. She was better $\qquad$ as Queen Elizabeth II.
a) know
b) knew
c) known
3. $\qquad$ November 1947, she married Philip, a former prince of Greece and Denmark.
a) On
b) In
c) $A t$
4. Do you know $\qquad$ her family name was? Mountbatten.
a) which
b) what
c) who
5. How $\qquad$ years did she stay on the throne?
a) much
b) many
c) some
6. Her reign of 70 years and 214 days was the $\qquad$ of any British monarch.
a) longer
b) most long
C) longes $\dagger$
7. She used to $\qquad$ in Buckingham Palace.
a) live
b) visit
c) travel
8. She did $\qquad$ historic visits and meetings including state visits to China in 1986 and to Russia in 1994.
a) many
b) much
c) a lot
9. She was a lot $\qquad$ than she looked like.
a) strong
b) stronger
C) strongest
10. $\qquad$ Great Britain is $\qquad$ country where she lived all her life.
a) The / a
b) - / the
c) - $/ a$
11.On Christmas Day 2021, a 19-year-old man entered the garden of her property with the intention of murdering her but he was arrested before he
$\qquad$ enter any buildings.
a) could
b) would
C) should
12.People of the UK enjoy $\qquad$ things about the Royal Family.
a) learn
b) to learn
c) learning
13.Since his departure for the United States, Prince Harry is no longer
$\qquad$ his brother William by the British people.
a) as appreciated then
b) as appreciated as
c) as appreciated that
14.People $\qquad$ not criticise Harry's choice as they do.
a) could
b) would
C) should
15.Normal people $\qquad$ lead a quiet life but members of the royal family
$\qquad$ to deal with many obligations.
a) like / have
b) can / have
C) can / must
11. $\qquad$ died last year and $\qquad$ funeral was attended by most of the world's greats.
a) She / his
b) Her / she
c) She / her
17.Even David Beckham $\qquad$ for hours to see the Queen on her deathbed.
a) urged
b) queued
c) came

10 pts

## Exercise 2 - Fill in the gaps with the correct verb forms and tenses.

## Sometimes two options are possible.

Elizabeth II $\qquad$ (die) last year at the age of 96. She $\qquad$ (be born) in 1926 in Mayfair, London. She $\qquad$ (get) married to Philip Mountbatten in 1947 at the age of 21 . The marriage $\qquad$ (NOT - take place) in Buckingham Palace but in Westminster Abbey on November 20. When her father passed away, she $\qquad$ (come) to the throne and $\qquad$ (decide) to retain Elizabeth as her regnal name. She was therefore called Elizabeth II.
$\qquad$ (imagine - she) that her reign would last so long? Probably not. And today? $\qquad$ (people - enjoy) their new king at the moment? It's hard to answer but we $\qquad$ (know) it in the coming months or years. For sure people $\qquad$ (remember) Elizabeth II for a long time as the greatest queen the UK has ever seen.

