



**Université Protestante d'Afrique Centrale (UPAC)**  
**INSTITUT UNIVERSITAIRE PROTESTANT DE YAOUNDE**  
*Faculté des Sciences Sociales et des Relations Internationales (FSSRI)*

COMPETITIVE ENTRANCE EXAMS INTO B.A. LEVEL 1

CONCOURS D'ENTREE EN 1<sup>ère</sup> ANNEE DE LICENCE

ACADEMIC YEAR / ANNEE ACADEMIQUE 2022/2023

**SUBJECT : ENGLISH LANGUAGE /EPREUVE D'ANGLAIS**

**Duration (Durée) : 2H**

Date: 02 August 2022

**Instructions:** Answer all questions

**SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION**

**Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow it**

**Employment challenges in the world today**

Nowadays, so many problems are plaguing employment in both developed and developing countries.

One of these is automation. As technology advances, more and more people are being laid-off their jobs because machines are replacing people in most routine jobs. Technology has been progressing rapidly and exponentially over the recent years. Computing power is being multiplied on shorter periods of time and staggering amount of data are generated and processed through interconnected machines. Machines can not only beat humans in games such as chess, but they can also drive trucks in mining fields or even cars on highways. Computers are not only able to read and grade academic essays, but also they can write one. They are even used for pattern recognition by law firms and also for language translation. This technological advance has brought an economic growth by increasing productivity and income and creating more opportunities and jobs. However, it has equally brought about mixed feelings. On the one hand, many critics think that this new form of economy will create new types of employment and consequently, overall productivity will significantly increase resulting in an increase in new products to fulfil demands. On the other hand, the belief shared is that computers and robots are leading to a net decrease in employment or what they refer to as technological unemployment. This group of critics believe that many jobs will be eliminated and this will be painful to the workers who are displaced by machines and software. In their opinion, automation will decrease employment rates and incomes. Consequently, cost of living will rise drastically, life styles will change and frustration will increase. They fear that because of automation, people may end up becoming Luddites (the name taken by the 19<sup>th</sup> century English textile workers who destroyed machinery taking their jobs).

Automation is not the only problem plaguing employment in the world today. Many workers, especially the old, do not want to retire and they continue to share with the active youthful population the few resources that are available. This situation, especially in developing countries, is a cause for concern. The fear to go on retirement is probably due to the bitter experiences that some retirees have had. Most retirees while still in active service, save part of what they earn so as to take care of the **dry years** when the time comes. But due to mismanagement by **swindler** financiers in financial institutions, the retirees, discover that they cannot get back what they had saved. It is easy to come up with a list of names of retirees who have died from heart attack because once retired, they could not get in possession of the money they had saved. In a bid to provide

for more secure revenues for retirees, governments in most countries have introduced new pension plans, generally known as pay-as-you-go system. Government taxes income to pay pensions. Thus, people give part of the income they earn in form of taxes and gain it back later in the form of pensions. However, there is still a growing fear that the government may not be able to maintain this system successfully.

Alternatively, most workers, especially those in Africa and in other developing countries where family ties are still very strong, have developed a new strategy to secure their retirement revenues. They now invest their money in businesses and in their kids so that the kids take care of them when they are old and retired. This explains why 70 percent of old people in Africa move in and live with their children and grandchildren instead of going to homes where unknown people take care of them. The children provide for their old parent with food, shelter and clothing. This has worked successfully for the past centuries and is considered by most as the best suited option for securing retirement revenues.

### **QUESTIONS (05 MARKS)**

- 1) According to the passage, automation is.....
  - a) The rapid and exponential advance of technology
  - b) Machineries taking people's routine jobs
  - c) Staggering amount of data that is generated and processed through interconnected machines
- 2) What, according to the passage, may make people to become Luddites?
  - a) Fear of decrease in employment rates and incomes
  - b) Fear of drastic rise in cost of living and change of life styles
  - c) Fear of the fact that computers and robots are taking their routine jobs
- 3) The expression '*dry years*' as used in the passage refers to a ...
  - a) Period when there is hunger and famine
  - b) Period when workers are on retirement
  - c) Period when there is no money
- 4) Due to mismanagement by *swindler* financiers in financial institutions, retirees discover that they cannot get back what they have saved. Choose the best alternative for the word '*swindler*' from the list below.
  - a) Trickster
  - b) Miser
  - c) Thief
- 5) What new strategy have workers developed in a bid to secure their retirement revenues?
  - a) Give part of the income they earn in form of taxes and gain it back later in the form of pensions
  - b) Rely on government's new pension plan, known as pay-as-you-go system
  - c) Pump money into businesses and in their children

### **SECTION B: GRAMMAR**

#### **I. Put the words in brackets in their correct form (04 marks)**

- 1) This supermarket offers (cheap) prices on most goods than retail stores.
- 2) Mbida (fly) to Paris some days ago.

- 3) Joseph (chair) a crucial board meeting tomorrow.
- 4) Look! It (rain) over there

**II. Transform the sentences below as indicated in brackets(06 marks)**

- 1) If Moki works harder, he will pass the test (change the sentence into conditional type 3)
- 2) **The earthquake wiped out the entire village (replace the underlined phrasal verb with a suitable word)**
- 3) The ant is crawling.....the ceiling (fill in the gap with an appropriate preposition)
- 4) No Mary, this isn't a mango tree. It is.....eucalyptus tree (fill in the gap with an appropriate article)
- 5) .....bag is this? I think it is Njie's bag (fill in the gap with a correct WH question word)
- 6) Their flat and our flat may seem to be the same, but ..... is different from ours (supply the missing possessive pronoun in the gap)

**SECTION C: VOCABULARY AND PRONUNCIATION**

**I. Complete the sentences with a correct word in brackets (05 marks)**

- 1) I need ..... to arrange the faulty water system in my house (an electrician, a plumber, a housemaid)
- 2) Money in notes and coins is called..... (cash, currency, cheque)
- 3) Money paid by the government or a company to a retired person is a ..... (debt, pension, aid, capital)
- 4) Debundscha, one time rainiest place in the world, is found in ..... (North West Region, South West Region, West Region, Littoral Region)
- 5) A person who teaches at a university or an institute of higher learning is ..... (a teacher, a lecturer, an instructor)

**II. Write down the words that contain the following sounds (10 marks)**

/d/	Walk <b>ed</b>	amaz <b>ed</b>	demand <b>ed</b>	smell <b>ed</b>	laugh <b>ed</b>
/θ/	Fath <b>er</b>	Marth <b>a</b>	neith <b>er</b>	weath <b>er</b>	smooth <b>th</b> ough
Silent /r/	Brak <b>e</b>	Bark	Brag	Break	bird
Silent /t/	Ligh <b>t</b>	bustl <b>e</b>	apostl <b>e</b>	bottl <b>e</b>	fright <b>e</b> n
Silent /b/	Lamb	box	doubt	bake	bag

**SECTION D: Essay (10 marks)**

Write an informal letter of at most 300 words to your parents telling them about the job you love the most.

Your address: Baye Alice; PO Box 22 Buea; baye@yahoo.com