

**CONCOURS D'ENTREE EN PREMIERE ANNEE**  
**1<sup>ER</sup> JUIN 2013**

**Épreuve d'Anglais**  
**1 heure – Coefficient 1**

Cette épreuve comporte deux parties :

***I. Compréhension d'un texte écrit*** **note/20**

Vos réponses doivent être portées sur la « feuille de réponses : QCM de langue » page suivante à détacher et à glisser à l'intérieur de la copie d'examen.

*1 point pour chaque réponse juste*

*0 point pour chaque «non réponse» et pour chaque réponse fausse.*

Voici la manière d'indiquer votre réponse :    1        

***II. Rédaction*** (écrire sur la copie d'examen) **note/20**

Votre réponse doit comporter entre 140 et 160 mots à rédiger sur la copie d'examen.

**Inscrivez le nombre de mots à la fin de votre rédaction.**

Feuille de réponses : QCM de langue / Anglais

Inscrivez votre n° d'inscription ici : \_\_\_\_\_

Cet examen comporte deux parties :

**I. Compréhension d'un texte écrit** (grille de réponses ci-dessous) /20

*1 point pour chaque réponse juste*

*0 point pour chaque 'non réponse' et pour chaque réponse fausse.*

Voici la manière d'indiquer votre réponse : 1

**II. Rédaction** (écrire sur la copie d'examen) /20

*Vos réponses au QCM de cet examen doivent être portées sur cette feuille ; glissez celle-ci à l'intérieur de la copie d'examen.*

**1<sup>ère</sup> Partie :** /20

**2<sup>ème</sup> Partie:** /20

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
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Observations :

**Note générale :** /20

Observations :

## 1<sup>ère</sup> partie : Compréhension d'un texte écrit

Lisez attentivement le texte suivant et répondez aux questions de compréhension globale et détaillée. (utilisez la « feuille de réponses QCM de langue »)

### **Forcing workers to come into the office is a symptom of Yahoo's problems, not a solution to them.**

*The Economist*, March 2, 2013

IN Jonathan Swift's 1726 novel, "Gulliver's Travels", the Yahoos are a degraded band of humanoids kept tethered in stalls by their equine captors. It is therefore appropriate that a recent, widely leaked memo from Yahoo's human-resources manager, Jackie Reses, began with the toe-curling salutation with which managers at the company normally address underlings: "Yahoos". "We can all feel the energy and buzz in our offices," the memo went on. Presumably, though, while some Yahoos are feeling it, others are lounging around at home in their pyjamas, for the memo went on to say that from June all Yahoos will be required to turn up in the office unless they have a good excuse. "The best is yet to come," the memo ended—a claim which may sound implausible to the employees of a company whose market capitalisation has fallen from \$125 billion in 2000 to \$25 billion now.

It is understandable that Marissa Mayer, Yahoo's recently appointed chief executive, should want to extract some more value from the humanoids she leads. Google's workers each generate \$931,657 revenue, 160% more than the \$353,657 produced by each of Yahoo's employees. And it is also reasonable for a company to want to discourage its employees from behaving like freelancers. After all, firms exist largely because people are more productive together than apart.

But tethering the Yahoos to their stalls in the company's offices does not seem like the right way to go about boosting their output. Plenty of evidence suggests that letting employees work from home is good for productivity. It allows them to use their time more efficiently and to spend more time with their families and less fuming in traffic jams or squashed on trains. It can reduce companies' costs. Cisco claimed in 2009 that it was saving \$277m a year by allowing its people to telecommute. A study by researchers at Stanford and Beijing Universities of a large Chinese travel company compared the performance of employees allowed to work from home with those who were stuck in the office: among the home-workers, job satisfaction rose, staff turnover fell by half and productivity went up by 13%. Hardly surprising, since a lot of people don't seem to work while they are at work: last year J.C. Penney, an American retailer, discovered that a third of its headquarters' bandwidth was taken up by employees watching YouTube videos.

Slapping down the sisters

Ms Mayer's move is not just a bad idea in itself but also a nail in the coffin of the naive notion that women with big jobs help their sisters up the ladder. Her plan will knock out a few rungs. Flexible employers help women run families and jobs simultaneously. Rigid working practices make combining the two impossible or unpleasant. To be fair, as somebody who took two weeks off to have a baby, Ms Mayer is hardly asking others to do what she would not; but then she has dulled the pain of separation from her child by installing a nursery next to her office. Yahoo's less privileged and less Stakhanovite women may well hoof it to a friendlier organisation.

But this is not just about women. A well-managed company's workers want to be productive, and managers trust them to decide how and where they will perform best. If that's not happening, the boss needs to find out why. You can shackle a Yahoo to his desk, but you can't make him feel the buzz.

**Choisissez la bonne réponse (utilisez la "feuille de réponses QCM de langue").**

Questions 1 to 10: In each case, choose the answer that corresponds most closely to the meaning of the text. Use the answer grid to indicate your choice by darkening the appropriate box.

1. In the first paragraph, it is clear that the author
  - a. finds Yahoo's new approach to employee presence on the premises appropriate.
  - b. is put off by the way Yahoo's upper echelons address their subordinates.
  - c. believes that it is degrading for Yahoo workers to be tethered to their stalls.
  
2. According to the memo,
  - a. too many Yahoo employees are turning up without good excuses.
  - b. you cannot feel the buzz if you are in your pyjamas.
  - c. telecommuting is soon to be a thing of the past.
  
3. "The best is yet to come" means that
  - a. improvements are not to be expected.
  - b. in the future there will be even better developments.
  - c. no matter how good things get, they cannot really improve.
  
4. The author thinks that Yahoo employees
  - a. might have a hard time imagining that things can look up in their company.
  - b. are responsible for a huge drop in market capitalisation in the last 13 years.
  - c. may make implausible claims about the fall in the firm's market capitalisation.
  
5. Marissa Mayer
  - a. hired the chief executive, who wants more value from Yahoo's employees.
  - b. recently got an increase in pay for extracting more value from the personnel at Yahoo.
  - c. unsurprisingly wants the staff at Yahoo to generate more money.
  
6. The author believes that
  - a. the personnel of Yahoo should not act as if they were free lances.
  - b. Marissa Mayer is discouraged because the staff at Yahoo don't take their jobs seriously.
  - c. to a great extent, the very existence of companies is based on workers working together.
  
7. The author suggests that
  - a. requiring staff to show up at work will not necessarily increase their productivity.
  - b. the way to boost Yahoo's productivity is to let workers decide where they want to work.
  - c. unless the chief executive boosts Yahoo's output, worker productivity will not increase.
  
8. Though telecommuting has many advantages for employees,
  - a. there is also something in it for the companies they work for.
  - b. the cost to companies is very low.
  - c. reduced travel time doesn't fully compensate cost reductions.
  
9. By forcing workers to come to the office, Ms Mayer is
  - a. showing how naïve she is.
  - b. proving that high-ranking females don't necessarily help women below them out.
  - c. knocking other female workers out of the ring.
  
10. The author recognizes that Ms Mayer
  - a. does not want women to take more than two weeks of maternity leave.
  - b. is only asking her workers to do what she herself does.
  - c. finds it difficult to ask her employees to do things that she wouldn't do.

Questions 11 to 20: Each of these presents a sentence with a word or phrase underlined. Below each sentence there are three other words or phrases. Choose the word or phrase which would best maintain the original meaning of the sentence, if it were substituted in the context of the article in the place of the underlined word or phrase.

Use the answer grid to indicate your choice by darkening the appropriate box.

11. Presumably, though, while some Yahoos are feeling it, others are not.
  - a. Very probably, however, though
  - b. Believably, nonetheless, as
  - c. In all likelihood, nevertheless, since
  
12. That claim may sound implausible to the employees.
  - a. demand
  - b. revindication
  - c. assertion
  
13. It is not the right way of going about boosting their output.
  - a. concluding the intensification of
  - b. managing to increase
  - c. revolving an amplification of
  
14. Plenty of evidence suggests that letting employees work at home is good for productivity.
  - a. It is remarkable
  - b. Evidently
  - c. Numerous indicators imply
  
15. They can thus spend less time fuming in traffic.
  - a. avoid wasting time getting mad in
  - b. avoid the fumes
  - c. avoid wasting time in the pollution of
  
16. Some employees worked at home, and others were stuck in the office.
  - a. were locked
  - b. reminded
  - c. had to stay
  
17. In the Chinese travel company,
  - a. there was a high correlation between job satisfaction and productivity.
  - b. people who worked at home turned over less business.
  - c. half of the staff turnover was attributed to the fact people worked at home.
  
18. Hardly surprising, since a lot of people don't work while at work.
  - a. This was difficult to believe, because
  - b. It was to be expected, for
  - c. Almost amazing, at a time when
  
19. Flexible employers help women run families and jobs simultaneously.
  - a. drive / at once
  - b. manage / at the same time
  - c. *either of the above*
  
20. To be fair, Ms Mayer is hardly asking others to do what she would not.
  - a. Justly
  - b. It is true
  - c. It must be admitted

**2<sup>ème</sup> partie : Rédaction** (entre 140 et 160 mots)

**Écrivez sur la copie d'examen.**

**Inscrivez le nombre de mots à la fin de votre rédaction.**

*Imagine you are a young computer scientist who has worked at Yahoo for several years. You have two children aged three and four. Since the birth of your children, you have telecommuted, honestly, sometimes working very late at night. You have read Ms Mayer's recent memo, and are shocked by her hypocrisy. Write her a letter stating your position.*