

CONCOURS D'ENTREE EN PREMIERE ANNEE

6 MAI 2017

Épreuve de langue

Durée : 1 heure – Coefficient 1

Feuille de réponses : QCM de langue / Anglais

Cette épreuve comporte deux parties :

I. Compréhension d'un texte écrit note /20

Vos réponses doivent être portées sur la grille de réponses au verso, à détacher et à glisser à l'intérieur de la copie d'examen.

1 point pour chaque réponse juste

0 point pour toute absence de réponse et toute réponse fausse

Vous devez indiquer votre réponse de la façon suivante : 1

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

Votre réponse doit comporter entre 140 et 160 mots, être rédigée sur la copie d'examen où vous aurez préalablement inscrit vos nom, prénom, etc. dans le coin supérieur droit prévu à cet effet.

Vous devez inscrire le nombre de mots à la fin de votre rédaction.

Inscrivez votre numéro de candidat ici : _____

1^{ère} Partie : / 20

2^{ème} Partie: / 20

	A	B	C
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Observations :

Note générale : /20

Observations :

Universal basic income debate sharpens as observers grasp for solutions to inequality (Edited)

25 March 2017 CNBC.com

[1] Is a guaranteed paycheck from the government, with no strings attached, the answer to the relentless rise of automation?

[2] The concept might sound far-fetched, but a so-called universal basic income (UBI), is currently one of the most hotly debated policy topics being floated as a means to address income inequality and the disruption that technology poses to the workforce. Indeed, developments in robotics and artificial intelligence have grave implications. A report issued this week found that more than a third of U.S. jobs were at risk from automation, upping the ante for policy makers to cushion the blow to workers.

[3] Advocates for UBI argue that a guaranteed paycheck could serve as a way to fight poverty and uncertainty in an evolving U.S. economy. Other countries including Switzerland, France, Scotland, Kenya, India and the Netherlands have also begun discussing the feasibility of a UBI while it is being tested in Finland.

[4] In the US the idea of a universal income has gained prominent backers such as Tesla's founder who supports UBI — joining a growing list of tech execs voicing support for the concept as a solution to unemployment that will be caused by the rise of robots. Skeptics, however, insist that a guaranteed paycheck would actually reduce the incentive to work. In their view, a UBI may even crowd out programs like Social Security and Medicare.

[5] The increasingly polarizing concept was on full display this week, as UBI backers and antagonists sparred at a debate hosted by Intelligence Squared U.S. in New York City. The debate made for strange bedfellows, as a well-known labor organizer teamed up with an economic libertarian to argue in favor of UBI, while two aides to former president Barack Obama pushed back on the idea. "Despite job growth, the economy is off to a bad start, and many people are stuck in minimum wage jobs," said Andrew Stern, the former president of one of the largest labor unions in the country.

[6] With a turbulent economy giving rise to populism, Stern said the economic environment was creating a "U.S. of anxiety" over money. A universal income would "promote choice and freedom, and offer security to individuals," Stern added. Well-known libertarian Charles Murray agreed, saying that if the government eliminates spending on some other programs, "we can afford to do this in America."

[7] However, Jason Furman, a former Economic Adviser under Obama, rejected the suggestion, saying, "If you give someone a dollar, [that dollar] has to come from somewhere": a universal income would actually take America in the wrong direction and worsen economic conditions. "UBI boosters" argue that ... the welfare state today doesn't work, but these claims are false," Jared Bernstein, a former economic adviser to Biden, told the debate's participants. Myriad welfare programs currently "lift more than 40 percent of Americans out of poverty, and instituting a universal income in our country would undermine that progress," he said.

[8] A guaranteed paycheck would be expensive. In the U.S. it could cost more than \$3 trillion to distribute just a \$10,000 annual income to all citizens. Some economists suggested that cutting spending on defense and curbing tax credits could pay for UBI. Yet others warned about the cost to the federal government, with the latter calling UBI little more than "bad math".

[9] The discussion has taken on added urgency as economists nervously eye the wave of disruption posed by automation. "To ignore the possibility and not plan [for automation] would be a huge mistake" Stern said, invoking "studies that show there will be a massive disruption in jobs." A 2016 World Bank analysis estimated that roughly two-thirds of all jobs in developing nations around the globe are susceptible to replacement by automation. In the U.S. alone, it has been estimated that 47 percent of American jobs could potentially be displaced by robots and automated technology over the next 20 years.

[10] Yet not everyone is sold on the idea of robots taking control of the American workforce—including billionaire investor Mark Cuban, who's pushed back aggressively against the idea of a guaranteed paycheck.

1ère partie : Compréhension de texte. Questions 1 to 10: choose the answer that corresponds most closely. Use the answer grid to indicate your choice by darkening the appropriate box.

1 - The general position of the article is that automation is...

- a- a ruthless change that is hard to figure out
- b- an unstoppable and worrying evolution
- c- an incredible opportunity for those who seize it

2 - As reports are saying that a third of jobs are under threat from automation, the article suggests that...

- a- if predictions are right they might have to help out those who fall foul of automation
- b- the authorities seek to protect themselves from an angry workforce.
- c- the government's duty to provide alternative employment for the workforce is obvious.

3 - According to the article, which country has come closest to introducing UBI (paragraph 3)?

- a- Finland
- b- Scotland
- c- The US

4 - Some prominent economists claim that (paragraph 4)

- a- Social Security and Medicare might be strengthened by UBI.
- b- Social Security and Medicare might be replaced by UBI.
- c- Social Security and Medicare might be made irrelevant by UBI.

5 - In the text the concept of UBI is said to be (paragraph 5)...

- a- likely to widen the divide between Republicans and Democrats.
- b- upsetting the high technology businesses.
- c- making it more and more difficult to remain neutral.

6 - A debate was organized in NYC and (paragraph 5)...

- a- unusual debaters were present.
- b- guests that don't usually interact took part in it.
- c- some strange opinions were put forward.

7 - "instituting a universal income in our country would undermine that progress" (paragraph 7) means that...

- a- all in all, UBI would defeat its initial purpose.
- b- only some categories of workers would benefit from UBI.
- c- the government would have to dig deep into its budget to ensure the success of UBI.

8 - According to the article, some economists feel that UBI (paragraph 8)...

- a- has been poorly calculated and unforeseen costs have not been taken into account
- b- has been misunderstood as a boost for the economy
- c- has led to partisan politics throughout the US

9- Generally speaking, the business leaders mentioned in the article...

- a- approve of UBI.
- b- disapprove of UBI.
- c- *neither a- nor b-*

10 - The article shows that

- a- despite being criticized, the implementation of UBI is a tempting prospect for the US.
- b- the issue of UBI is the subject of opposing opinions in the political and economic spheres today.
- c- a consensus on UBI is within reach.

Questions 11 to 20: Choose the phrase which would best maintain the original meaning of the underlined section.

11- paragraph 1: ...a guaranteed paycheck from the government, with no strings attached

- a- that would be strictly controlled
- b- that would be unconditional
- c- that would be sent free of charge

12 – paragraph 2: ...the concept might sound far-fetched

- a- the concept is a rather unusual and implausible idea
- b- the concept was first adopted in a foreign country
- c- the concept is being advertised everywhere

13- paragraph 2: ...one of the most hotly debated policy topics being floated

- a- being tested
- b- being put forward
- c- under constant analysis

14- paragraph 2: ...cushion the blow to workers

- a- alleviate the impact on workers
- b- push workers to react
- c- provide workers with new kinds of jobs

15- paragraph 5: ...UBI backers and antagonists sparred at a debate

- a- confronted their views
- b- wholeheartedly disagreed
- c- listened intently

16- paragraph 5: ...pushed back on the idea

- a- endorsed the idea unreservedly
- b- opposed the idea
- c- postponed the adoption of the idea

17- paragraph 5: ...the economy is off to a bad start

- a- the economy is going to kick-start
- b- the economy's indicators have stopped improving
- c- the economy is not yet having the impact hoped for

18- paragraph 7: ...UBI boosters are

- a- energetic and efficient advisors
- b- advocates
- c- first implementation stages

19- paragraph 9: “jobs...are susceptible to replacement”

- a - the robotization process has already begun.
- b - some jobs are likely to be automated.
- c - some jobs are more unstable than others.

20- paragraph 10: “not everyone is sold on the idea of robots taking control of the American workforce”

- a- promotes
- b- is taken in by
- c- believes

2ème partie : Rédaction (entre 140 et 160 mots)

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

Ecrivez sur la copie d'examen.

With UBI, some people might never work for a living. You have developed your own opinion about this. In 140 to 160 words, state your opinion.