

UNIVERSITE DE NANTES

ANNEE : 2009/2010

U.F.R DE LANGUES - CENTRE INTERNATIONAL de LANGUES
LEA

SESSION ...2. - Semestre 2

DIPLOME : CYCLE : ...L..... NIVEAU : ...2.....

DATE : 21 juin

HEURE : 8h30

UNITE D'ENSEIGNEMENT CONCERNEE : ...UE 41.....ANGLAIS

SALLE : CIL 414

INTITULE DE L'EPREUVE : ...Civilisation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
EPREUVE POUR : DA& ASSIDUS

DUREE : 3...h ...

DOCUMENTS AUTORISES :aucuns.....

NOM DU PROFESSEUR RESPONSABLE : H. Jane BAYLY (2CMs, 1 TD), Gene ZBIKOWSKI (4 TD), Xavier LEMOINE (2 TD)

OBSERVATION DU PROFESSEUR : Pour « Part Two », écrivez toutes les deux lignes s'il vous plaît

PART ONE ¹⁰ (points): Answer the following questions in one to three sentences.

1. Where is the "rust belt" located in the United States?
2. What has been the trend in urbanization since the 1970s?
3. What effect has the world economic crisis had on U.S. daily newspapers?
4. What was the first "national" medium in the U.S.?
5. "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." Which of the 27 amendments to the U.S. Constitution is this?
6. What happens after the U.S. House of Representatives impeaches a public official?
7. What is the Tea Party movement and what is its goal?
8. What is a lobby and what does it do?
9. What do Mount Rushmore, Old Glory and the Liberty Bell all have in common?
10. What is the Protestant work ethic?
11. What is the particularity of Mexico with regard to immigration to the U.S.?
12. The "Asian-American community" is an incorrect expression because this "community" is highly divided. Name three things that divide "Asian-Americans."
13. Former Presidents Jimmy Carter and George W. Bush are "born-again Christians," and President Ronald Reagan was one. What is a "born-again Christian?"
14. What is the official religion in the U.S.?
15. The subprime crisis set off the world financial crisis, which led to the present world economic crisis. What was the subprime crisis?
16. Explain Adam Smith's term "the invisible hand of the market."
17. What has been the policy of the U.S. government regarding working time since 1951?
18. What is the AFL-CIO?
19. To what extent is President Obama's health insurance plan a state-funded, public health insurance plan?
20. Name one of the four ways that the 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act affected welfare programs in the U.S.

PART TWO (10 points) :

CHOOSE BETWEEN OPTION A (ESSAY) AND OPTION B (COMMENTARY)

Write every other line.

OPTION A: WRITE AN ESSAY ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT:

Explain and discuss: “/.../ a top television network editor /.../ was reluctant to run stories about global warming because a previous story had ‘triggered a barrage of complaints from the Global Climate Coalition’ – a fossil fuel industry lobbying group /.../” From “Boiling Point: Who’s to Blame for Global Warming?” by Al Gore, *The New York Times*, August 15, 2004.

OPTION B: Write a commentary on this excerpt from President Barack Obama’s December 1, 2009 speech announcing his decision to send an additional 30,000 U.S. troops to Afghanistan.

[...] For unlike the great powers of old, we have not sought¹ world domination. Our union was founded in resistance to oppression. We do not seek to occupy other nations. We will not claim another nation’s resources or target other peoples because their faith or ethnicity is different from ours. What we have fought for – and what we continue to fight for – is a better future for our children and grandchildren, and we believe that their lives will be better if other peoples’ children and grandchildren can live in freedom and access opportunity. 5

As a country, we are not as young – and perhaps not as innocent – as we were when Roosevelt² was President. Yet we are still heirs to a noble struggle for freedom. Now we must summon all of our might³ and moral suasion⁴ to meet the challenges of a new age.

In the end, our security and leadership does not come solely from the strength of our arms. It derives from our people – from the workers and businesses who will rebuild our economy; from the entrepreneurs and researchers who will pioneer new industries; from the teachers that will educate our children, and the service of those who work in our communities at home; from the diplomats and Peace Corps⁵ volunteers who spread hope abroad; and from the men and women in uniform who are part of an unbroken line of sacrifice that has made government of the people, by the people, and for the people a reality on this Earth. 10

This vast and diverse citizenry will not always agree on every issue – nor should we. But I also know that we, as a country, cannot sustain our leadership nor navigate the momentous challenges of our time if we allow ourselves to be split asunder⁶ by the same rancor and cynicism and partisanship that has in recent times poisoned our national discourse. 15

It is easy to forget that when this war began, we were united – bound together by the fresh memory of a horrific attack, and by the determination to defend our homeland and the values we hold dear. I refuse to accept the notion that we cannot summon that unity again. I believe with every fiber of my being that we – as Americans – can still come together behind a common purpose. For our values are not simply words written into parchment – they are a creed⁷ that calls us together, and that has carried us through the darkest of storms as one nation, one people. 20

America – we are passing through a time of great trial. And the message that we send in the midst of these storms must be clear: that our cause is just, our resolve unwavering.⁸ We will go forward with the confidence that right makes might, and with the commitment to forge an America that is safer, a world that is more secure, and a future that represents not the deepest of fears but the highest of hopes. Thank you, God Bless you, God Bless our troops, and may God Bless the United States of America. 25

(520 words)

¹ seek – sought – sought = chercher² Franklin D. Roosevelt, President 1933-1945³ might = force⁴ suasion = persuasion⁵ Peace Corps : une agence indépendante du gouvernement américain, créée en 1961, dont la mission est de favoriser la paix et l'amitié du monde - en particulier auprès des pays du tiers monde.⁶ to be split asunder = être divisé⁷ creed = des principes⁸ unwavering = inébranlable