Test d’anglais
du Lycée Djignabo

Matière : Anglais.
Destinataires : Secondes

EXERCICE CORRIGE :

Auteur : Mamadou Demba.
Date de publication : 18 avril 2006

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I found my first day at school so disappointing that I ran away determined never to return. But my mother turned a deaf ear to my raging protests and quietly but determinedly dragged me by the arm each morning and deposited me in the schoolroom. Eventually I realized that I had lost the battle and decided that I was going to be forced to stay here. I might as well get to like it and do what I could to learn something. To my surprise I soon found that I enjoyed my lessons and looked forward to going to school, even though we lived in fear and trembling of the teacher because of his first and active belief in the adage “Spare the rod and spoil the child.” I disliked being forced to do things against my will, for I have not been accustomed to it, and I used to think what a paradise school would be if we were left in peace to do our studies without the presence of the school-master.

All the various grades were housed in one room and the master used to teach a class at a time. It must have been a hard job for him, and we didn’t do anything to ease his lot. Luckily I was keen on learning, so keen in fact, that soon my only dread was that my father my one day be unable to afford the school fees, which at that time amounted to three pence a month. Because of this I started rearing a few chickens, which I sold for six pence each. By this means I could not only help to meet the school fees, but I had money to buy books as well. In addition, any fears about my father’s poverty were quite unfounded because I can never remember him denying any of us anything we asked and he was particularly generous where I was concerned.

One thing in particular stands out in my mind during my early schooldays, probably because it was first lesson in discipline. We were not fond of the teacher because of his frequent use of the stick, often we thought without just cause. One day we learned that an inspector was coming to the school and immediately saw our chance of getting our revenge on the master. We got together and decided to play truant for the whole day during the inspector’s visit, but the following morning he got the last laugh, for as soon as we showed our faces, he was waiting for us with a stick. We were each stripped naked and given twenty four lashes on our bare bottoms. This hurt so much that for the next three days I was quite unable to sit down at my school desk. But whatever injury this caused to my body and my pride, I knew well enough that I had deserved it. And from that day I have always learnt to accept punishment that I feel I have justly earned, however humiliating this may be.

2 EXERCICE

2.1 Comprehension (10 pts)

2.1.1 Tick the appropriate answer (3pts)

1. The best title for this text is
   a. My early school days                             c. My father's poverty.
   b. I was keen on learning.                         d. My first day at school

2. Every morning, the boy goes to school
   a. together with his father.                     c. together with his school-master.
   b. together with his mother.                     d. alone.

3. The boy's name is
   a. Kwame Nkrumah.                                c. Leopold Sedar Senghor
   b. Nelson Mandela                                d. is unknown to us.

4. Finally, the boy
   a. disliked his lessons very much.               c. was not happy to go to school.
   b. liked his lessons very much.                  d. did not like learning.

5. “Spare the rod and spoil the child” means
   a. if the rod is used, the child will be spoilt.       c. if the rod is not used, the child
   b. if the rod is used, the child will not be spoilt.       will not be spoilt.
           d. the child will be spoilt if the rod
                is used.

6. “School fees” are
   a. money received by a student.                  c. money to buy books.
   b. money paid every month at school.            d. fears about my father's poverty
2.1.2 **Are the following statements true or false? (3pts)**

**Justify with quotations from the text:**

1. The boy could not help to meet the school fees.
   
   ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

2. The boy enjoyed his first day at school.
   
   ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

3. The boy’s father never gave him what he asked.
   
   ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

2.1.3 **Find in the text synonyms or antonyms for the following words: (4 pts)**

1. proverb = ………………………
2. finally = ………………………
3. war ≠ ………………………
4. won ≠ ………………………

2.2 **LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE (10 pts)**

2.2.1 **Complete with the appropriate tense of the verbs in brackets (5pts)**

1. This child is ill because he ……………..raw mangoes. (to eat)

2. Apparently, the sun ……………. in the East. (to rise)

3. How many letters ………………………...this year? (you, to write)

4. I ………..the Headmaster in Dakar last year. (to see)

2.2.2 **Fill in the blanks with the present tense of the verbs in brackets: (2.5 pts)**

I ……………..my first day at school so disappointing (to find) that I …………..away (to run)
determined never to return. But my mother …………..a deaf ear (to turn)to my raging
protests and quietly but determinedly …………..me by the arm (to drag) each morning and
……………………me in the schoolroom (to deposit).
2.2.3  Complete the dialogue below with the appropriate tense of the verbs in brackets:

(2.5 pts )

Husband --- __ How ..........you, darling ? ( to be )

Wife ---            Fine, thanks.

Husband--- ......................to the market tomorrow ? ( you, to go )

Wife---Yes. I .........................rice, meat, vegetables and fruit. ( to buy )

Husband--- I .....................some spaghetti, too. ( to want )

Wife---All right. I ......................you some. ( to buy )

3  CORRIGE

3.1.1  Tick the appropriate answer

1a  2b  3a  4b  5b  6b

3.1.2 Are the following statements true or false?

1. False: “By this means, I could not only help to meet the school fees, but I had money to buy books as well.”
2. False: “I found my first day at school so disappointing that I ran away never to return.”
3. False: “…I can never remember him denying anything we asked and he was particularly generous where I was concerned.”

3.1.3 Find in the text synonyms or antonyms for the following words:

1. proverb = adage          2. finally= eventually          3. war≠ peace         4. won ≠ lost

3.1.4  Linguistic competence

1. _ 1. has eaten   2. rises   3. have you written ( also possible: will you write) 4. saw
2. _ find— run— turns— drags— deposits
3. _ are —Did you go — bought — want — will buy