

Niveau : 4 EME ANNEE / SECTION: Math / S.V.T. / S.Info / Economie

NOM: ----- CLASS: ----- N°: -----

I. READING COMPREHENSION (12 marks)

THE TEXT

1. Easy A's may be even easier to score these days, with the growing popularity of online courses. Tech-savvy students are finding ways to cheat with minimal effort, in ways that are difficult to detect. Take Bob Smith, a student at a public university in the United States. This past semester, he spent just 25 to 30 minutes each week on an online science course, the time it took him to take the weekly test. He never read the online materials for the course and never opened a textbook. He learned almost nothing. He got an A. His secret was to cheat, and he's proud of the method he came up with.

2. The issue of online cheating may rise in prominence, as more and more institutions embrace online courses. The promise of **such systems** is that education can be delivered cheaply and conveniently online. Yet as access improves, so will the number of people gaming the system, unless courses are designed carefully. This prediction has not escaped many of those leading new online efforts, or researchers who specialize in testing.

3. As students find new ways to cheat, course designers are anticipating them and devising new ways to catch folks like Mr. Smith. Yet, Mr. Smith argues that the university has put so little into the security of the course that it can't be very serious about whether the online students are learning anything. Hundreds of students took the course with him, and he never communicated with the professor directly. It all felt sterile, impersonal, he told me.

4. A professor familiar with the course said that other students probably cheat in online introductory courses as well. To them, the courses are just hoops to jump through to get a credential, and the students are happy to pay the tuition, learn little, and add an A. "This is the education game and students are winning," the professor told me. "If there are weaknesses in the system, students will find them and try to game it. Part of the answer may be fighting technology with more technology, designing new ways to catch cheaters."

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COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1- Choose the right title to the text (1pt)

- a- ☐ Online Learning Prevents Cheating
- b- ☐ Online Learning Allows Cheating
- c- ☐ Online Learning Decreases Cheating

2- Correct the following false statement with a detail from the text (1pt)

Bob Smith feels regretful due to his shameful act of cheating.

.....

3- According to the text, online learning has benefits as well as blemishes- Pick out THREE different details (3pts)

- Benefit:
-

- Blemishes:

- a.
- b.

4- Tick (✓) the most appropriate option. (2 pts)

4.1. When the professor said: "This is the education game and students are winning," he wanted to describe the online method as:

- a. ☐ The best means of entertainment for students at schools.
- b. ☐ An ideal model of 'learn through play' method that suits students' interests.
- c. ☐ A challenging educational method in which students are always victorious.

4.2. When Bob Smith says: "It all felt sterile"; he means that:

- a. ☐ This system might lead to infertility.
- b. ☐ The online teaching method is fruitless.
- c. ☐ Enrolling at a virtual school is not for kids.

5- Find out a word in the text meaning approximately the same as the following (2 pts)

- a. Clever and knowledgeable: -----
- b. Degree or diploma : -----

6- What does the underlined expression refer to? (1 pt)

- "such systems" refer to:

7- Answer the following questions: (2 pts)

- a. What is the best way to combat cheating according to the professor?
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-

- b. How do the majority of students regard online education?

II. LANGUAGE (6 pts)

1. Fill in the blanks with words from the box- There are TWO EXTRA words (3 pts)

analyst / which / expertise / found / lower / where / according / failures

Thousands of UK primary schools are locking their pupils into a cycle of disadvantage by separating them into ability groups, a major international study has warned. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) analysed successes and _____ in education systems in 39 of the world's most developed nations. It _____ that countries that divided pupils into ability groups at an early age tended to have higher numbers of school drop-outs and _____ levels of achievement. In the UK one in six pupils are divided _____ to their academic ability by the age of seven. Beatriz Pont, an education _____, said streaming by ability at an early age "fuelled a vicious cycle" in _____ teachers had low expectations of students in the lowest sets.

2. Supply the correct tense or form of the bracketed words (3 pts)

A robot schoolteacher developed by Japanese scientists has taken a class in a Tokyo school. Saya, the female humanoid robot, **(design)** _____ to resemble as human a form as possible. Using a range of programmed **(move)** _____ from eyebrow arching to smiling, her face is capable of expressing six basic emotions in the classroom – surprise, fear, disgust, anger, happiness and **(sad)** _____. While Saya's creator Professor Hiroshi Kobayashi said the robot's main purpose was **(highlight)** _____ the joys of technology to children, he also said it would benefit schools **(suffer)** _____ from a shortage of human teachers. Saya was initially created to work as a receptionist in **(Japan)** _____ companies five years ago but was recently reprogrammed by scientists into its latest incarnation as a schoolteacher.

III. WRITING (12 pts)

1. Use the following notes to write a coherent paragraph about 'video games'. (4 marks)

- **Benefits:** develop logical reasoning and strategy thinking / arise the spirit of challenge
- **Drawbacks:** lead to health problems (obesity, poor eyesight) / losing touch with friends and family

[illegible]

2. Essay (8 marks)

You have noticed lately that many students at your school are losing much of their motivation towards their studies and some of them are thinking seriously to drop out of school saying that education is a hopeless issue. Write a sensitizing article at your school magazine to highlight the importance of schooling.

[illegible]
