

	Devoir Synthese 2	• 4 ème année Mathematiques
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	Nom & prénom :	Note :/20

I. READING COMPREHENSION (12 marks)

THE TEXT

- When the University of Kansas recently passed out 66 bachelor's degrees, a 67th degree was recognized for a special and grateful 90-year-old man from Hugoton, Kansas.
- Nearly 70 years ago, Warren Spikes was close to getting his degree in petroleum engineering at the University of Kansas (KU) when he was drafted into the Army. Spikes, the son of a Kansas farmer, left school to start his military service. The Army then sent the soldier to Rutgers University in New Brunswick during basic training to study civil engineering for six months in 1945.
- For years, the veteran told his family he had enough credits — between the University of Kansas and Rutgers — to earn a bachelor's degree. He just never graduated. Last month, Spikes finally got his engineering degree on his 90th birthday, according to a story in a Kansas newspaper.
- Earlier this fall, Warren's son, Kirk Spikes, researched his father's case for receiving a degree from KU, keeping his efforts a secret from his dad. Kirk obtained his father's records from Rutgers and asked KU to review the information to see whether he'd completed the requirements to earn a degree. Officials in KU's office and engineering dean's office determined Warren was eligible for a degree based on the KU curriculum in 1945.
- The family surprised Spikes with the degree at his birthday party last month in his **hometown**. "I think in his mind, he'd earned it. He just didn't have the piece of paper. Now, he's got the piece of paper," his son said. Spikes spent time in Japan during his military service, eventually returning to Kansas to farm land his family owned. He said he never expected to hold his college degree. "I was really surprised," Spikes said. "I had no idea I could make it someday. *My life should have been much better*; but it's certainly an honour."

<http://us.topnewstoday.org> - Jan 24, 2014

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Tick (✓) the right option (1 mark)

The text is mainly about an old man who.....

- a. ☐ enrolled at a university despite his old age.
- b. ☐ studied hard at an old age to get a university degree.
- c. ☒ got his degree more than half a century after leaving college. ✓

2. Find details in the text showing that the following statements are false (2 marks)

- a. Warren Spikes was sure that he would get his university degree one day.
Spikes said: "I had no idea I could make it someday."
- b. Warren Spikes has acquired no education since he left the University of Kansas.

The Army then sent the soldier to Rutgers University in New Brunswick during basic training to study civil engineering for six months in 1945.

3. Complete the following table with information from the text (2 marks)

Cause	Effect
a. Warren Spikes had to join the army.	He left school / He didn't get his degree.
b. He had enough credits	Warren couldn't graduate for years.

4. Answer the following questions: (2 marks)

- a. How did Warren Spikes manage to graduate after a long time?
Warren's son, Kirk Spikes, researched his father's case for receiving a degree.
- b. According to you, what is the importance of getting the degree for Warren Spikes?
It's a kind of challenge/ making the impossible possible / making one's dream come true....

5. Find out words in the text meaning approximately the same as the following (2 marks)

- a. A person who has served in the military forces (p.3): **veteran**
- b. Desirable and worthy of being chosen (p.4): **eligible**

6. What do the underlined words in paragraph 5 refer to? (2 marks)

- "hometown" refers to: **Hugoton, Kansas**
- "it" refers to: **getting the degree**

7. Tick (✓) the most appropriate option. (1 mark)

- When Warren Spikes said: "My life should have been much better"; he was expressing:
 - a. ☐ regret
 - b. ☒ reproach ✓
 - c. ☐ probability

II. LANGUAGE (6 marks)

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

further / rather / to / concerns / empower / countless / with / threaten
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Technological invention has made countless contributions in advancing the quality of life for people on a global basis. With invention has come an equally (1) **countless** number of unintended consequences, some beneficial and others destructive. Looking to the future, continued and even increased inventive output will be necessary for (2) **further** advances in addressing core societal challenges, including global social, energy, security and environmental (3) **concerns** — challenges that not only threaten the continued improvement of human quality of life but in some analyses even (4) **threaten** the existence of the human species over the course of the next century. The aim is not to create inventors at the level of Edison by the multi-thousands. (5) **Rather**, it is toward a more broadly distributed appreciation and capability for invention, design and creativity. The traits of the inventive mind can be cultivated by education. Simply put, we believe that a culture of inventiveness at all levels can be fostered (6) **to** the benefit of society.

2. Supply the right tense or form to the bracketed words: (3 marks)

Over the years, Facebook has evolved and everyone's invited to sign up. It's no longer a student club - anyone can flood our feeds with inspirational quotes, **(describe)** **description/s** of their lunches, complaints about their mobile service providers and lists of the things that make them **(feel)** **feel** so very 'blessed'. The older Facebook has grown, the **(little)** **less** maturely its users have behaved. It makes us all into self obsessed, attention seeking children. Facebook has **(progress)** **progressively** exploited a generation that came of age when the concept of celebrity was being reinvented and the concept of privacy **(destroy)** **was being destroyed**. We didn't care if our mates took a picture of us falling out of a taxi, and posted it online. We have instinctively learned to download all our fights, **(think)** **thoughts** and failings straight onto social media.

III. WRITING (12 marks)

1. Add the necessary elements to get coherent sentences about ‘adult education’ (4 marks)

a. Adult education **is** the process which **(that)** lets adults gain new forms **of** know**ledge**.

b. Adults **are** engaged**d** in lifelong learning centres.

c. During **the** 1990s, many adults enrolled **in (at)** computer training**ing** courses.

d. **The (These, Those, Such)** courses provide adults **with (the)** basic computer skills.

2. Essay (8 marks)

“My son is a smart kid at a secondary school. Yet, he has no friends other than who's online with him. He hates going to school. Besides, he has suffered from bullying more than once. He's terribly asking me to let him enrol at one of those online schools. I still hesitate about it...”

After reading this article in a local English Magazine, you have decided to write a 12-line letter to the mother in which you express your opinion, highlighting the benefits of online learning.

DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME

Dear Madam

Truly Yours

