

2009 Brevet de fin d'études moyennes (BFEM)

Épreuve d'anglais LV1

I. Reading comprehension (8 points)

1. At the age of 25 Aboubacar Bailo Diallo had plans to leave his hometown of Boulliwel to look for work in the Guinean capital of Conakry. Like many other young Guineans who were forced to drop out of school due to a lack of money, Aboubacar's only hope for escaping the poverty in which he grew up.

2. Aboubacar's father convinced him to join a training program in chicken-raising, funded by a non-governmental organization, as an alternative to leaving home. Two years later, Aboubacar says that it's the best decision he has ever made and that he no longer has an intention of leaving his hometown and his family in search of a better life. With his new knowledge of chicken-raising and the installation of his first chicken coop, he was able to create this 'better life' at home. Beginning with 300 chicks he now has 450 egg-laying hens.

3. Aboubacar is able to contribute greatly to the family's expenses, particularly by paying for medical fees. The income from the chicken farm also pays for the schooling of nine children in his family. Not only is there enough food in Aboubacar's family, but the babies are well-fed and the children rarely become sick. Now, eggs are consumed on a daily basis by each family in the community, whereas just two years ago eggs were hardly eaten at all. The eggs are even being sold in nearby villages and shipped to the principal regional centers.

Adapted from www.11said.gov/sl (retrieved March 1, 2006)



A. . Choose from the following what you think is the best title (of the text).(0.5 pt)

- a) Aboubacar's failure b) Aboubacar's success story c) Aboubacar's exodus
2. Match each of these ideas below with the paragraph it corresponds to.(1.5 pts)
- a) Aboubacar's decision to start a new business Paragraph 1
b) The benefits of Aboubacar's business Paragraph 2
c) Aboubacar's intention to move to the city Paragraph 3

3. Circle the right ending. a), b). or c). (1.5 pts)

- i. Aboubacar wanted to go to Conakry to..... .
c: a) visit the capital b) find a job
c) develop his home town
- ii. Aboubacar finally started his new business in
a) Conakry b) another village
c) Boulliwé!

iii. With his business, Aboubacar finally the living conditions of his family.

- a) better b) aggravates c) cannot change

4. Are the following statements true or false? Tick () and justify from the text. (3 pts)

Statements	True	False	Justification
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Aboubacar rejected his father's suggestion.

He didn't know anything about chicken-raising before getting into the business.

Aboubacar now has 450 egg-laying hens and 300 chicks.

5. Circle where you think is the best equivalent for the following words. (1.5 pts)

i. As an alternative to leaving home (paragraph 2 means:

- a) As another way of leaving home
b) As a possibility of staying home
c) As a decision to leave home

u. Eggs were hardly eaten at all (paragraph 3 means:

- a) They ate hard eggs.. b) They didn't eat much eggs.
c) All of them ate eggs.

ii. The lesson from this text is:

- a) You can earn a living without leaving your village.
b) You can succeed only in towns.
c) Large families are an obstacle to development.



II. LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE (6 pts)

F. 6. Complete this short dialog with the questions Aboubacar's father asked his son.(2 pts)

Father: Do you really want to go to Conakry .

Aboubacar: Yes, Dad, I've already made my decision.

Father: ?

Aboubacar: To look for work,

Father: ?

Aboubacar ; I will live with my uncle Mamadou Woury.

Father :I really wish you stayed here

G. 7. Aboubacar is thinking about the situation. Underline the best words to make a meaningful paragraph.(2,5 pts)

There is nothing/ anything/ something here. If I stay here, I won't/ will / would be able to feed the family. And if I leave, I have no idea what job to do since/ unless/.because Uncle Mamadou helps me find something. Though life here is more/ less/ as expensive that in Conakry I can/ have to / used to leave to support the family.

8. Do the underlined words express aptitude / like or dislike / comparison / intention? Write your answers in the space provided. (1 pt)

i. Like many other young Guineans (line 2);

ii. Aboubacar is able to contribute (line 12):

Writing (6 points)

Choose **ONE** topic only and write about 80-120 words

Topic 1: Mamadou Saliou, Aboubacar's cousin has been in Conakry for two years but has not been able to even send money home. Tell us story

Topic 2: One day your brother/sister informs you that he/she wants to leave the village and go to town in search for work. Knowing the difficulty to find work in town you try to convince him/her to stay in the village and create his/her own business activity . Write about your conversation.

Topic 3: Would you like to take risks and leave Senegal on a boat for Spain for a job.

