

Des questions possibles à l'épreuve d'expression orale

Pour la 2ème partie de votre épreuve l'examinateur vous posera des questions en lien avec la notion que vous avez choisie. Voici quelques exemples, et pistes de réflexion...

Myths and Heroes

1. What myths do you know?
2. Why are myths and heroes important to our society?
3. Do you think that myths and heroes can teach us a lesson? Can you give examples?
4. Is the 'European Dream' the new myth replacing the 'American Dream'?
5. What types of heroes do you know?
6. Do you have a personal hero? Who? Why do you admire him/her?
7. Is it a sports person, an actor, an artist, a pop star, a member of your family, an ordinary hero such as a fireman? Why is this person considered a role model?
8. What are his/her qualities?
9. Can you think of an anti-hero? Can you talk about his/her behaviour?
10. Would you like to be a hero? What type? Why?
11. What is the difference between a hero and a superhero?
12. Do you consider MLK a hero? Why? What about Malala or Mandela?
13. Could you name a person who, in your opinion, best exemplifies courage/ wisdom/ loyalty/ selflessness/ honesty?
14. Are myths and heroes important to our society?
15. Could we live without heroes?
16. If a hero does something wrong, is he/she still a hero? (Ex Mandela and illegal actions)
17. What super powers would you like to have?
18. Some people say that people like Mandela, Zinedine Zidane or even anonymous firefighters can be considered as heroes. Do you think they can influence the development of a young person's personality?
19. Would you say heroism is essentially about risk-taking? Which other features would you focus on to define 'heroism'?
20. Who was your hero when you were a child? What about now? So what?
21. Is a world without myths and heroes sustainable? Would you survive without them?
22. Don't you think the word 'hero' is being over-used nowadays, that it has become almost a cliché? What does it reveal basically about us?
23. In what way are modern-day heroes different from those of the past?
24. What is a modern-day/contemporary hero? How have they made an impact on our lives?
25. How can an ordinary person make the world a better place?
26. Why are sports heroes so important in today's society?
27. To what extent does Barack Obama represent the black American dream?
28. To what extent do myths represent society's values?
29. In today's society to what extent is there a need for myths, something to believe in that is greater than we are?
30. What is the role of the media in the making of heroes?
31. What is the role of the media in the rise and fall of certain « heroes »?

Places and Forms of Power

1. What places of power do you know?
2. What forms of power do you know?
3. How do people exercise their power? What tools can they use?
4. What in your opinion is the most dangerous form of power?
5. Can you give an example of a power struggle?
6. What are the limits to power? How is power abused?
7. Why and how do people need to exercise their power on others?

8. What form of power did the Civil Rights Movement represent in the USA in the 50s and 60s?
9. Do you think protest songs have any power?
10. Do you consider yourself under any form of control? By whom or by what?
11. Are you addicted to anything?
12. Do you consider consumerism a form of power? How? Are you personally under its influence?
13. Is there any law that you find unfair?
14. How can we limit the excesses of authority?
15. Do you think we are manipulated? (by politicians, by the media, by ads...)
16. To what extent do you respect institutions? Which ones do you consider important?
17. What is the power of monarchy in GB?
18. Is there a fascination for power?
19. Would you regard a boycott as a good means of pressure on a brand, authorities ...?
20. To what extent can education be a key to power? To empowerment?
21. Some say that advertising exerts too much power on customers. What about yourself? Do you think you are influenced by advertising?
22. Should we limit the power of the press?
23. Are we being over-informed? Do we really need instant news?
24. Would you say power is equally shared between men and women nowadays?
25. Is power related to technological progress ? / to money ?
26. Do you think men are more powerful than women ? why, or why not ?
27. Is there a media that's more powerful than others, according to you ? (between the paper press, the TV, the radio, the web)
28. Why are the media called the 4th power ?
29. Do you think power is a good thing, or not ? why ?
30. Do you think some organizations or people use their power in the negative side ? Give examples !
31. Do you think only politicians own the power, or are there other people concerned ?
32. Would you like to have some power ? In which area/field ? Why ? What would you do ?
33. Do you think the people always believe in the Press ?
34. In what way does sport have the power to unite people in a way that little else can?
35. « Whoever controls the media controls the mind (Jim Morrison) » – how much power do the media have over us?
36. When power is misused how do people rebel against it?
37. To what extent can we say that schools and universities are instruments of power?
38. How powerful is the NRA (National Rifle Association)? How has it consistently succeeded in defeating new gun control legislation in the USA?
39. How have civil rights activists used non-violent protest to bring about change in the USA?

Idea of progress

1. What is progress for you ? What types of progress can you think of ?
2. What is the most important form of progress for you?
3. In what way has progress made life better? Can you give examples?
4. Do you think that progress is always positive? Can there be a negative side to progress?
5. What do you think are the most important inventions of the past 50 years?
6. Do you consider the Internet and new technologies represent progress? Why?
7. How has the Internet changed today's world?
8. Do you consider the consumer society was progress? In what way?
9. How did the Civil Rights Movement bring about progress in America?
10. Do you consider the situation of blacks is regressing today in America? What would MLK think/say/do about it?
11. What about the world's situation today ? Are people's rights regressing or progressing?
12. Have you experienced any form of progress in your life (recently)?
13. In your opinion, what was the major technological or scientific breakthrough/invention in the last decades / in the last 50 years ?
14. What are the pros and cons / advantages and disadvantages / good points and bad points of progress?

15. Do you think people were happier before or now? What do you miss from the past? What do you think is better now?
16. Some say that some inventions are polluting the atmosphere. Do you think we should close down the factories (the plants) that are polluting? Should we stop the production of goods or energy?
17. Would you say we are living in a progressive society? Are we really moving forward or backward?
18. What makes progress such a divisive issue? Could you give examples of advances/ innovations that led to a hot debate/ that set people apart?
19. « We 've never had it so good! » a British MP proudly declared in the 50s. Would you say the same in the early 21st century ?
20. Do you understand technophobes? How do you feel about cutting- edge technology yourself?
21. How did arts / music reflect progress in the 60s ?
22. What main inventions contributed to progress (in the scientific / medical / technological field) ?
23. Who were the leaders in the 60s ? What progress did they want ?
24. What is the link between the civil rights movement and the feminist movement in the 60s ?
25. Which types of progress took place in the 60s ? in which domains/fields ? give examples !
26. Social media : is it really a progress ?
27. Progress is movement in the right direction. Do you agree or not ? Why or why not ? Give examples.
28. Progress is education for all. Do you agree ?
29. What impact has progress on the planet ?
30. To what extent does new technology isolate people?
31. Are social networking sites a threat to our private lives?
32. How has the internet modified our social behaviour and changed the way we communicate?
33. To what extent does progress change our vision of the others and of the world?
34. Working from home – is it the end of productivity or the future of work?
35. How does modern technology affect today's society? Does it have a positive or a negative effect?
36. How far has social progress over the past century lead to an improvement in the human rights of women?

Spaces and Exchanges

1. What kind of exchanges are there in today's world? (trade, financial, sport, social networking, education, ...)
2. How are these exchanges influenced by modern technologies? Do new technologies make exchanges easier?
3. What impact does globalisation have on exchanges?
4. To what extent can globalisation be an asset?
5. Would you like to travel abroad? Which country would you like to live in? Why?
6. Have you ever travelled abroad? Which countries have you visited?
7. What did you learn from your trips abroad?
8. Would you like to go on a gap year? Why? Why not? Do you think gap years should be compulsory for all students?
9. Why do people emigrate?
10. Would you like to emigrate to another country? Where to? Why? Why not?
11. What do immigrants bring to their new country? Are they always an asset?
12. Why do so many immigrants take so many risks to get to Europe? What should European countries do?
13. What is the American Dream? Is it still true today?
14. What about volunteering? Would you be ready to become a volunteer on a mission?
15. Is English a good means to communicate/exchange?
16. Which difficulties do immigrants have to face ?
17. Some say that many Spanish-speaking people feel discriminated against in the United States . Can you give me some examples of discrimination?
18. Is 'being on the move' a must today?
19. Does the word ' home' still make sense in this globalized world or is it losing its meaning ?
20. Do you think borders still serve a purpose today? Do you dream of a world without borders- like John Lennon in 'Imagine'- or do you regard it as utopia or hypocrisy?
21. Immigrants: a blessing or a curse?
22. 'Travelling broadens the mind', as the saying goes: how can you benefit from travelling abroad ?
23. Do you believe in the American dream ? Would you like to live in the USA ?
24. Is there a country where you'd like to live ? Why ?
25. In what way does the American culture / way of life / way of thought differ from the European one ?

26. Is gun violence typical of the USA only or not ?
27. What idea have you got of the American people ? what is your image of US society and people ?
28. Do you think the US people are more violent than the other people in the world ? Why, why not ?
29. If we had the right to keep and bear arms in Europe, would you have one ? why, why not ? How would you deal with that ?
30. What impact does the cinema, especially Hollywood productions, have on violence ?
31. Do you think gun ownership should be prevented or regulated ?
32. What drives people to leave their country to go and live in another country?
33. Is the American Dream still alive? What attracts immigrants to live in the USA?
34. Has the Olympic ideal of fair play and tolerance been now replaced by money, drugs and politics?
35. What are the different conflicts that have shaped the US society? What effect have they had on the USA as we know it today?