

<i>Code branche</i> ANGLA	Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse EXAMEN DE FIN D'ÉTUDES SECONDAIRES TECHNIQUES Régime technique - Session 2015/2016	
<i>Épreuve écrite</i>	<i>Branche</i>	<i>Division / Section</i>
<i>Durée épreuve</i> 3h	ANGLAIS	CG / CC
<i>Date épreuve</i> 15 SEP. 2016		

- DICTIONARIES ARE NOT ALLOWED FOR THIS PART -

PART A

A) Essential Articles (15 marks)

'My beef isn't with beef: Why I stopped being a vegetarian' (Jenna Woginrich) (7m)

Q1. Explain why the author thinks that "your fork is your ballot"?

'Where did childhood in Britain go wrong?' (Sue Palmer) (8m)

Q2. Explain the author's reflections on the past and present meaning of the word "play".

B) Short Stories (15 marks)

'Edna, back from America' (Clare Boylan) (8m)

Q3. What are the similarities between June and the real Edna? Explain with reference to the text.

'Sauce for the Goose' (Patricia Highsmith) (7m)

Q4. Explain the conditions of the "trial period" between Loren and Olivia? In how far did Olivia respect the agreement?



PART B

The fear and loathing created in us by the beach-ready body cult

Yasmin Alibhai-Brown

Monday 5 October 2015

Summer brings light, warmth, bliss, vacations and, for most females, young and old, undeclared anxieties and agonies. Looking in the mirror is unbearable, shopping makes us feel freakish. Parts of the body that should feel the sun are covered up as shame and self-loathing overwhelm. I was trying on a swimsuit the other day and was revolted by my shape. My body is average size but my eyes and head have been programmed to see gross imperfections, ugliness.

Women today have more rights, fight back against sexism and discrimination, and are breaking through glass ceilings. Those gains are offset by what seems to be the war within, the relentless, harrying voices in their heads telling them they have imperfect bodies and countless other defects.

But, tragically, the young are even more tormented about the way they look. A war is being waged on their self-esteem. They are assaulted by manipulative, unattainable beauty messages. The media gleefully displays celebrities who have put on weight or lost some; articles and programmes go on and on about getting that shape, that size, that complexion, that hair, all mirages which induce only disappointment. Then there are the underweight models whose lifeless expressions create emotional and mental chaos.

Misery sells. A teen magazine journalist told me she left the industry because it deliberately, knowingly, targeted female insecurities and vulnerabilities. "I felt as if I was in some dreadful cult which was determined to capture and distort young minds." This cult, the most dangerous of all because it is seen as normal, makes its money from mind-bending our young (and old, too) and taking away personal agency. It creates destruction and it doesn't care.

One customer fought back this week. Laura Berry, 28, from Stroud, was infuriated by Topshop's tree-tall and stick-thin mannequins so she went to the company's own Facebook page and let rip. She accused the fashion chain of showing no concern "for a generation of extremely body-conscious youth... Perhaps it is about time you became responsible for the impression you have on women and young girls and helped them feel good about themselves rather than impose these ridiculous standards." She ended: "I used my size 10/12² legs to walk straight out of your store."

Respect, Ms Berry, much respect. The post received thousands of "likes" within hours. Shop bosses explained that the offending mannequins were never meant to be "a representation of the average female body" but vowed to phase them out.

Obesity is much debated these days, and rightly so. (...) But we must not neglect the opposite problem – of ever more thinness. Size 10² is now considered too big by millions of gullible females – including me on a bad day – and bones are the new trend.

A few weeks ago, in a department store near Brighton, I heard a mum consoling her sobbing teenage daughter who thought she was too fat. She wasn't. In fact she was petite and gorgeous, but had a slight, roundish tummy. The mother could say nothing to make her child feel better about herself. Nobody could. The idea she has of herself is fixed and is not susceptible to rational talk or even the family's love.

Most teenagers can't pay for plastic surgery operations and so they diet manically and take pills. An inquest last month heard how Eloise Aimee Perry, only 21 and a student, died after taking toxic diet pills bought on the internet. Look at her photos: she was slim and lovely. But she thought she wasn't, and probably, that society didn't either.

These anxieties are now emerging in 5 to 8 year-olds. Sita Pai, the author of a US report on the subject, found that kids as young as 5 "were expressing a desire for a body that is thinner than their current or future selves." This a crisis without end. We are all lost in a hall full of distorting mirrors which we can never leave.

(673 words) adapted from: <http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/the-fear-and-loathing-created-in-us-by-the-beach-ready-body-cult-10433880.html>

1: Size 10 is a UK clothes size that is roughly equivalent to S (small) in Europe. **Size 12** is roughly equivalent to size M (medium) in Europe.

2: Topshop is a UK-based clothes retailer, similar to brands such as Zara or H&M.

A) Comprehension Questions (15 marks)

Answer the following questions in your own words. Do not copy from the text.

Q1. To what extent are modern women free and emancipated, according to the author? Explain. (4 marks)

Q2. How does the cult of beauty affect the young in particular? Give at least one example. (6 marks)

Q3. Explain how Laura Berry managed to "fight back". (5 marks)

B) Development Question (15 marks)

Write a well-structured essay of around 250 words about the topic below. Include a word count.

How can we boost teenagers' self-confidence in all areas of life?

**Attention: Do NOT exclusively focus on physical appearance!
Do NOT restate ideas from the text!**

