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| COLLEGE CATHOLIQUE SAINT JEAN BOSCO | ENGLISH TEST FOR TA | ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022 |
| DATE: 02-03-2022 | DURATION: 03 HOURS | ENGLISH COUNCIL |

PART ONE : READING

40%

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

The big land sell-off

In November, South Korea's Daewoo Logistics made the starting announcement That the company had secured a 99- year lease on 1.3 m hectares of land, an area roughly half the size of Belgium, from the government of Madagascar. Daewoo's investment of \$6bn Is intended to produce 4m tonnes of corn –and 500,000 tonnes of palm oil a year, mostly for export.

5 Investment in African land by foreign interests are gathering pace. In August, al-quadra holdings of Abu Dhabi said that it was looking to acquire 400,000 hectares of land in Asia and Africa, with Sudan a likely candidate, for the cultivation of corn, rice and cattle

10 There have been similar investments in Mozambique, Uganda and Zimbabwe, as well as globally in the Philippines, Cambodia, Pakistan and Ukraine-amongst other nations. Ethiopia's prime minister, Meles Zenawi, has been actively soliciting middle East Investment countries describing himself as "very eager" to attract further land deals. Egypt too has been touting for such investment. A UK company recently acquired 3,000 hectares in Ethiopia to grow Jatropha, a plant whose non-edible seeds, if processed, can produce biodiesel.

15 The growing of crops for biodiesel is contentious. World Bank economics have pointed to the increase in biodiesel crops as at least partly responsible for the spike in crop prices last year.

Others are concerned it may damage the soil or environment. Western Australia has banned Jatropha as "invasive and highly toxic to people and animals".

However, it yields four times as much fuel as soya bean and 10 times more than maize. Its proponents argue that it can also improve soil quality, as it leaves compost down.

20 The motives behind these investments in African land are straightforward enough. The opportunities to invest in African land, and land elsewhere in the developing world, offer great commercial potential. The surge in food prices last year (although prices have since fallen) led to wealthy food-importing nations seeking greater food security through the acquisition of reliable agricultural resources.

25 After all, the primary purpose of such investments is to produce food for the investor nation not the host nation. However, that is not to say that there will not be benefits to the host nation. As Al Quadra Holdings chief executive says: Supplying food to UAE will be one of our main objectives, but this business is international from day one. We are planning to supply other countries too.

30 Yet African land investments are contentious for other reasons. Critics in Nigeria suspicious of what it regards as neo-colonialism in alliance with corrupt elements in the country have claimed that local farmers in Sudan have been displaced to make way for powerful foreign agri-investors.

Unhappy memories of these experiences understandably colour current reactions to these investments, but there are also concerns regarding countries such as Ethiopia and Sudan which have a history of current famine.

COMPREHENSION CHECK

A. Match the words from the text in box A with meanings in box B. The indicated lines will help you. Write your answer like this : 7-a

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| 1. startling (line1) | a. Type of liquid fuel derived from processed plants |
| 2. lease (line2) | b. Contract by which you pay to use a house, land for a period |
| 3. gathering pace (lin5) | c. Sudden sharp increase in prices, current electricity, etc |
| 4. holdings (line 5) | d. Causing someone to be slightly shocked |
| 5. eager (line11) | e. Rise |
| 6. touting for (line11) | f. People who speak publicly in support of a cause, an idea |
| 7. biodiesel (line13) | g. Companies whose main purpose is to control other companies |
| 8. contentious (line 14) | h. Showing great enthusiasm |
| 9. spike (line15) | i. Becoming faster and stronger |
| 10. Proponents (line19) | j. Persistently trying to persuade people to buy something |
| 11. surge (line 22) | k. Likely to cause disagreement |

B. Read the text and give short answers to these questions

1. What effect did the South Korean's acquisition produced ?
2. Which result is expected from that acquisition ?
3. Is land business a growing one ? How do you know ? Quote from the text.
4. Whose desire is it to do land business ?
5. Why is the growing of crops for biodiesel a problem ?
6. Apart from having commercial potential what strategic reason has brought some rich countries to invest in African land ?
7. It solidarity compatible with land investments ? Justify you answer.
8. To what extent can Nigerian suspicion become a real menace to the country ?
9. Through the following : "...in alliance with corrupt elements in the country,..." what negative attitude of some Africans is revealed ?
10. What dilemma are Africans faced with as far as these foreign investments are concerned ?

PART TWO : LANGUAGE IN USE

30 %

Task : Complete the following sentences with the correct preposition. Write your answer like this :1-for

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| 1 | Mr. Martin is responsible ----- recruitment. |
| 2 | I'm sorry but I don't understand the reason----- the increase-----prices. |
| 3 | In this company, salaries depend_____ the level of responsibility. |
| 4 | You have to pay----- the tickets the day you order them. |

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| 5 | Our new Chairman reminds me ——— my old history teacher. |
| 6 | Do you think the report could be translated _____ English for the meeting tomorrow |
| 7 | Thank you for offering to help. It's very kind _____ you |
| 8 | Look _____ the woman _____ the picture. Who is she ? |
| 9 | The manager didn't take part _____ the discussion. He didn't want to intervene. |
| 10 | It's no use taking him to the Louvre. He isn't interested _____ art. |
| 11 | The food in Japan is very different.....European food. |
| 12 | I don't agree _____ you.....my opinion you're wrong. |
| 13 | John was late for the meeting as usual. That's typical _____ him. |
| 14 | We should invite Pete to the party. He's very good _____ telling jokes. |
| 15 | The car crashed _____ a fence _____ the other side of the road. |
| 16 | Last summer i took a plane _____ Munich to Rome. |
| 17 | We stopped _____ a small restaurant for a quick meal. |

PART THREE : WRITING

Do only one of the two tasks

- A. Your Anglophone pen friend is spending a few weeks with you in your family. At the end of a TV programme on "foreign investments for Africa" you start a discussion. Below is the beginning of the dialogue ; complete it. Each person will speak seven times maximum.

You : You know, our economies are still fragile and receiving help is normal.

Ellen : It may be surprising but i am totally opposed to foreign investments.

You : What justifies such an opposition ? Alone , it will be difficult for Africa to carry out her projects.

Ellen : Let me tell you that anytime you receive this kind of help, people try to control you. Is it like this that you want to emancipate yourselves ?

You :

Ellen :

- B. You are a member of member of your school ENGLISH Club. For the next publication of the Club's Magasin you are asked to write an article on the topic : " Countries in crisis and foreign investments". You can mention the following : *situation of natural resources ; attitude of foreign investors ; consequences on population ; possible solutions. Give your article a title. (25 line maximum)*