

BACCALAUREAT BLANC
SESSION : AVRIL 2022

SERIE : A2
COEFICIENT : 2
DUREE : 3H

ANGLAIS

Do all the activities on your answer sheet.

PART ONE: READING 40%

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Not so long ago, when a couple was expecting a baby, they had to wait for nine months before welcoming it unconditionally, boy or girl, handicapped or not.

Today the fetus is already a patient: thanks to ultrasound scan, parents can see their unborn baby in advance, know its sex and detect malformations or genetic diseases by the process of amniocentesis. But what should they do with the information? Keep the perfect babies and abort the others?

Since the birth of Louise Brown, the first test tube baby in 1978, over 600,000 children have been born by in-vitro fertilization!

Organ transplants, artificial fertilization, 60-year-old mothers, abortion, multiple births, surrogate mothers...have profoundly transformed our perception of birth and life.

Designer babies, would-be parents using test tube baby treatment, may want to select cells for genetic testing: a good embryo could be implanted into the mother's womb and the remaining ones could either be destroyed or frozen for future use. Some doctors already offer a gender selection service to parents who are willing to pay at least £10,000 to determine the sex of their dream child.

Shall we order a baby as we buy a new car? Parents can choose the make and the model and even the time of delivery! If they can afford it, they may select the surrogate mother on a catalogue (usually a young married mother of two healthy children) or choose the sperm or egg donor according to his or her traits.

Reality sometimes goes beyond fiction: after the birth of Dolly, the first cloned sheep in 1977, the cloning of human beings is within reach. Aldous Huxley's famous 1932 science fiction novel *Brave New World* might become reality soon.

Are we playing God?

Can these new developments of science be ethically justified? How far can scientists push Mother Nature? Childless couples, who are desperate to have a child, welcome these scientific advances. These new reproductive technologies could be used to achieve perfection. They will soon become more efficient and common in order to make happy babies in happy families.

Adapted from CLASSI-FILES, les dossiers classés de la presse Anglo-Saxonne.

COMPREHENSION

A. VOCABULARY CHECK

Read the text and find the words or expressions that mean the same as the ones given below. Write your answers like in the example.

Example: 1-expecting

- 1-Awaiting, looking for (L1)
- 2-unborn baby, embryo (L3)
- 3-terminate (L6)
- 4-transfers (L9)
- 5-substitute (L10)
- 6-potential (L11)
- 7-uterus (L12)
- 8-disposed, ready (L14)
- 9-distribution (L17)
- 10-pay for (L17)
- 11-characteristics, attributes (L19)

B. / COMPREHENSION CHECK

Read the text again and provide short answers to the following questions.

- 1-What is the role of ultrasound scans?
- 2-Why do some parents resort to that method?
- 3-What does Louise Brown represent in the revolution of science?
- 4-Has she been the only one ever since? Justify.
- 5-List five revolutions in science mentioned in the text.
- 6-Is it possible to choose the sex of a baby nowadays? Justify from the text.
- 7-Which methods do doctors use to carry it out?
- 8-Why is a baby compared to a new car by the author?
- 9-What is a surrogate mother supposed to do for a couple?
- 10- What is the perspective, after the birth of Dolly in 1997?

PART TWO: LANGUAGE IN USE**30%**

This text is about Levi V. Perry, 62, a Houston cardiologist, the father of 10 children, including six physicians and two medical students. Just before Perry wrote this letter, his eldest son, Levi Jr., 38, was murdered while jogging near his family's home. Read this text and fill in the gaps with the suggested words to make it meaningful. One word in the list is not concerned. Do it following the example. Example: 1-emphasized

**on—siblings—succeed—whenever—in--climbed—emphasized—
amazing-- from--get over—as--encountered**

PERSEVERANCE

Dear young people,

My parents owned a restaurant. They worked hard and always **1.....** the importance of education, and my wife, Eula, and I have tried to pass these values **2.....** to our children. We taught them the beauty of life and to look at life in terms of what they could do that will be of service to their community. It's ironic that I'm writing this letter a few weeks after the death of our eldest son. It is amazing how you can have a child succeed **3.....** numerous ways only to be gunned down mercilessly without reason. Levi was a teacher, a good and kind man who taught his younger **4.....** how to succeed. He would do anything I asked him to, or he would do what he thought needed to be done without my asking. In the past, **5.....** there was a problem, I always had an answer for my children. I told them nothing was "final," and nothing was until my son's death. I didn't have an immediate answer for that, but later I reminded them of what we have often said in our house: It is not the number of hills that you try to climb but the one that you **6.....** that counts. The success of this family is the result of perseverance and all of us working together to achieve the highest goals possible. It has not been easy. Each of our children has **7.....** people along the way who tried to make it difficult for them, yet they pressed ahead with what they wanted to do. To other young people, particularly those who face obstacles such **8.....** sexism, racism or poverty or who doubt their own ability to **9.....** I say: Work hard, attain an education, strive for the parents always encouraged me, as I have my children. If you don't have encouragement **10.....** home or school, strive all the harder. Persevere. Your reward will come in knowing that you **11.....** the hill yourself.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Levi

V.Perry

PART THREE WRITING 30%

Do only one of the two tasks.

TASK1

Nowadays, reproductive technology is an alternative for families in their desire to have children. What is your opinion about this option? These vocabulary words will be helpful:

- in-vitro fertilization
- ultrasound scans
- sex selection
- surrogacy mothers
- post menopausal mothers

TASK 2

After you have read a text about 3D printing and nanotechnology, you are amazed about their use. However, when discussing with your Nigerian friend about it, you quickly remark that he is not so enthusiastic about them. Write a dialogue in 25 lines maximum in which you try to convince him about their importance nowadays.