

Concours Communs Polytechniques
Épreuve commune Filières MP – PC – PSI – TSI – TPC
Langue vivante anglais – Session 2014

Proposition de correction

I. Version

Le réchauffement climatique : qu'en disent les scientifiques de pointe

Beaucoup de choses ont changé depuis que les climatologues les plus éminents du monde se sont rassemblés en 2007 pour finaliser leur évaluation du réchauffement climatique.

Depuis la parution de ce rapport, le monde a connu une récession prolongée.

À court terme, ceci a été bon pour l'environnement puisque le marasme affectant la production manufacturée qui en a résulté a bloqué la croissance des émissions nocives de carbone.

Mais à long terme, la récession a causé de gros dégâts, parce qu'elle a évincé de l'agenda politique les problèmes écologiques.

La grande cause de la réduction des émissions a reçu une nouvelle volée de plomb dans l'aile en 2009 lorsque les gouvernements mondiaux ne sont pas parvenus à tomber d'accord sur les plafonds à tenir en vue de réduire les émissions de gaz.

Les sceptiques en matière de climat ont exploité l'occasion en faisant valoir qu'en période de récession, la dernière chose dont on ait besoin était une énergie renouvelable chère et sans nécessité, qui pousse à la hausse les factures énergétiques.

II. Expression écrite

1. Résumé de texte

Many workers are nowadays ready to accept lower wages to preserve their work-pride.

Work-pride is more than just self-satisfaction, It implies attention to others, the will to participate in a common project. Denouncing the perverse effects of an evaluation of individual performances fostering competition and ruining work ambiance, sociologist Bénédicte Vidaillet calls for a new type of organisation of work, to resist the present situation where some are overworked while others are un- or underemployed.

The now frequent burn-out syndromes call for a change. The gap between an individual's capacities and the ever-increasing, often contradictory, demands on his work is frustrating and counter-productive. Working better also implies taking into account the possibility of erring and failing.

Work is the locus where man tests himself and confronts reality. It provides social visibility, as shown by the degraded self-esteem after a job loss. Working better *is* rewarding.

(143 words)

2. Commentaire

One cannot but agree with the statement that work is a factor of social recognition. The text rightly points out the loss of self-esteem that goes with a job loss.

Work is the chief means by which you are identified. One of the first questions strangers in a social occasion ask each other is about their respective activity, for that will permit them to evaluate each other.

Mentioning your work will light up a string of bulbs in your interlocutor's mind, elicit feelings and judgments, He will mentally assess your level of studies, give a guess at your salary — something one never ever mentions — and infer your standard of living. A social judgment will follow up, for in our societies at least — contrary to the US for instance where the money you make is what counts — a more or less important dose of respectability is attached to jobs. A doctor is socially more respectable than a street cleaner (hence the appearance sometimes, not to hurt the incumbent's feelings or devalue him in the others' eyes, of politically correct descriptions of the jobs —e.g. a « sanitation engineer » rather than a « garbage-truck operator » —. Moral judgments are not far behind: teachers are always on holiday, railwaymen always on strike, bankers are cheats, journalists liars... : Work is indeed the social marker *par excellence*.

(222 words)