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Task 2: Persuasive Essay

You have 1 minute to read the directions for this task.

Vous aurez 1 minute pour lire les instructions pour cet exercice.

You will write a persuasive essay to submit to a French writing contest. The essay topic is based on three accompanying sources, which present different viewpoints on the topic and include both print and audio material. First, you will have 6 minutes to read the essay topic and the printed material. Afterward, you will hear the audio material twice; you should take notes while you listen. Then, you will have 40 minutes to prepare and write your essay.

In your persuasive essay, you should present the sources' different viewpoints on the topic and also clearly indicate your own viewpoint and defend it thoroughly. Use information from all of the sources to support your essay. As you refer to the sources, identify them appropriately. Also, organize your essay into clear paragraphs.

Vous allez écrire un essai persuasif pour un concours d'écriture de langue française. Le sujet de l'essai est basé sur trois sources ci-jointes, qui présentent des points de vue différents sur le sujet et qui comprennent à la fois du matériel audio et imprimé. Vous aurez d'abord 6 minutes pour lire le sujet de l'essai et le matériel imprimé. Ensuite, vous écouterez l'audio deux fois; vous devriez prendre des notes pendant que vous écoutez. Enfin, vous aurez 40 minutes pour préparer et écrire votre essai.

Dans votre essai, vous devriez présenter les points de vue différents des sources sur le sujet et aussi indiquer clairement votre propre point de vue que vous défendrez à fond. Utilisez les renseignements fournis par toutes les sources pour soutenir votre essai. Quand vous ferez référence aux sources, identifiez-les de façon appropriée. Organisez aussi votre essai en paragraphes bien distincts.

You will now begin this task.

Vous allez maintenant commencer cet exercice.

Time — Approximately 55 minutes

Thème du cours: Les défis mondiaux

Vous aurez 6 minutes pour lire le sujet de l'essai, la source numéro 1 et la source numéro 2.

Sujet de l'essai:

Doit-on permettre l'usage des OGM (organismes génétiquement modifiés) dans la production alimentaire?

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Source numéro 1

Introduction

Dans cette sélection il s'agit de l'introduction des OGM dans l'agriculture africaine. L'article original a été publié le 25 juin 2004 en France par le journaliste Alpha Barry.

Les premiers pas vers les OGM

Les États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest viennent de s'engager en faveur d'une introduction de la biotechnologie, c'est-à-dire les OGM, dans l'agriculture africaine à l'issue d'une conférence
 5 organisée du 21 au 23 juin à Ouagadougou sur l'initiative des gouvernements burkinabè et américain. Alors que les organisations de la société civile appellent à la prudence, pour les décideurs des pays concernés, c'est un «premier et important» pas qui est
 10 franchi dans la modernisation de l'agriculture africaine.

Pour les Africains, le débat sur les OGM est presque simple: dans un continent qui a faim, c'est le seul moyen d'augmenter de façon substantielle la
 15 productivité agricole et donc d'assurer la sécurité alimentaire aux populations. Selon les estimations des experts, l'Afrique dépassera à l'horizon 2025 1,2 milliards d'habitants. Le continent devra accroître sa production actuelle de 10 à 12 fois pour satisfaire les
 20 besoins de cette population. «Cela n'est pas possible sans une maîtrise et une adaptation des biotechnologies pour accroître rapidement la production alimentaire», estime Blaise Compaoré le président burkinabè, hôte de cette première
 25 conférence en Afrique.

La réunion de Ouagadougou fait suite à une première organisée l'année dernière à Sacramento (États-Unis) par le gouvernement américain dans le but de convaincre les États africains d'introduire les OGM
 30 dans leur agriculture. Le premier d'entre eux à mordre

à l'hameçon tendu par les Américains est le Burkina Faso. Deuxième producteur de coton graine en Afrique de l'Ouest après le Mali avec 500 000 tonnes, le Burkina s'est lancé en 2003 avec la firme
 35 américaine Monsanto dans l'expérimentation «en milieu confiné» du coton transgénique. «On a bien réussi à augmenter notre production dans les conditions actuelles, mais il sera difficile de dépasser un million de tonnes. Or, avec la baisse des cours,
 40 nous n'avons pas d'autre choix que de produire en quantité. Et la biotechnologie peut nous permettre d'atteindre 2 à 3 millions de tonnes», explique Salif Diallo, ministre burkinabè de l'agriculture.

Autre exemple cité par les pro-OGM, celui de la
 45 production laitière. Alors que sous d'autres cieux, les vaches issues de différents croisements produisent 40 à 50 litres de lait par jour, en Afrique on est à 1 litre. «Est-ce que nous devons continuer à faire venir par avion des races du Brésil comme cela a été le cas il y
 50 a quelques années au Burkina?», s'interroge le professeur Hamidou Boly, directeur de l'Institut burkinabè de recherche agricole et enseignant de génétique animale dans différentes universités européennes. «Observer un moratoire ne veut pas dire
 55 qu'il faut se croiser les bras et attendre qu'un jour les européens nous disent que les OGM sont sans danger avant de commencer les expérimentations», réagit le professeur Boly aux critiques des organisations burkinabè de la société civile.

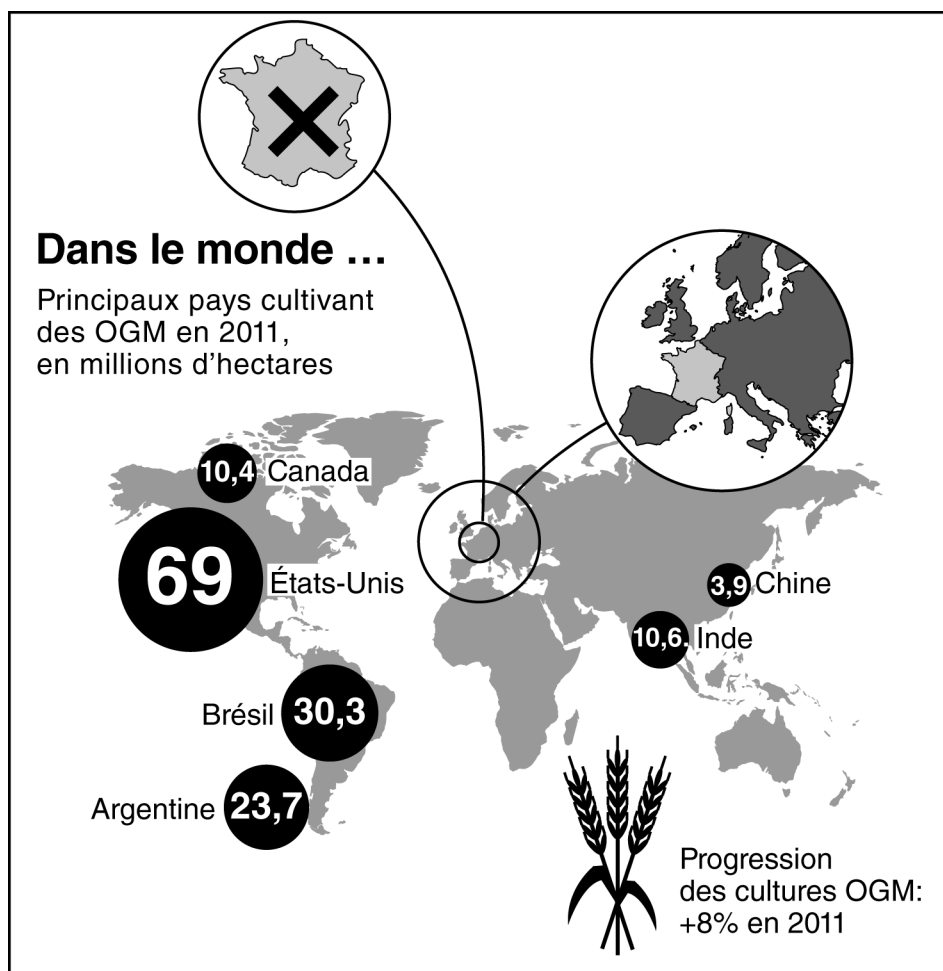
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Source numéro 2

Introduction

Dans cette sélection il s'agit de la proportion de cultures OGM dans plusieurs pays. Le graphique original a été publié le 15 avril 2013 en France sur le site Web LeParisien.fr.

OGM: les chiffres



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Task 3: Conversation

You have 1 minute to read the directions for this task.

Vous aurez 1 minute pour lire les instructions pour cet exercice.

You will participate in a conversation. First, you will have 1 minute to read a preview of the conversation, including an outline of each turn in the conversation. Afterward, the conversation will begin, following the outline. Each time it is your turn to speak, you will have 20 seconds to record your response.

You should participate in the conversation as fully and appropriately as possible.

Vous allez participer à une conversation. D'abord, vous aurez 1 minute pour lire une introduction à cette conversation qui comprend le schéma des échanges. Ensuite, la conversation commencera, suivant le schéma. Quand ce sera à vous de parler, vous aurez 20 secondes pour enregistrer votre réponse.

Vous devriez participer à la conversation de façon aussi complète et appropriée que possible.

You will now begin this task.

Vous allez maintenant commencer cet exercice.

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Presentational Writing: Persuasive Essay

5: STRONG performance in Presentational Writing

- Effective treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Demonstrates a high degree of comprehension of the sources' viewpoints, with very few minor inaccuracies
- Integrates content from all three sources in support of the essay
- Presents and defends the student's own viewpoint on the topic with a high degree of clarity; develops a persuasive argument with coherence and detail
- Organized essay; effective use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression; occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax and usage, with few errors
- Develops paragraph-length discourse with a variety of simple and compound sentences, and some complex sentences

4: GOOD performance in Presentational Writing

- Generally effective treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Demonstrates comprehension of the sources' viewpoints; may include a few inaccuracies
- Summarizes, with limited integration, content from all three sources in support of the essay
- Presents and defends the student's own viewpoint on the topic with clarity; develops a persuasive argument with coherence
- Organized essay; some effective use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Fully understandable, with some errors which do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and generally appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- General control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Develops mostly paragraph-length discourse with simple, compound and a few complex sentences

3: FAIR performance in Presentational Writing

- Suitable treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Demonstrates a moderate degree of comprehension of the sources' viewpoints; includes some inaccuracies
- Summarizes content from at least two sources in support of the essay
- Presents and defends the student's own viewpoint on the topic; develops a somewhat persuasive argument with some coherence
- Some organization; limited use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Generally understandable, with errors that may impede comprehensibility
- Appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Some control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Uses strings of mostly simple sentences, with a few compound sentences

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2: WEAK performance in Presentational Writing

- Unsuitable treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Demonstrates a low degree of comprehension of the sources' viewpoints; information may be limited or inaccurate
- Summarizes content from one or two sources; may not support the essay
- Presents, or at least suggests, the student's own viewpoint on the topic; develops an unpersuasive argument somewhat incoherently
- Limited organization; ineffective use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Partially understandable, with errors that force interpretation and cause confusion for the reader
- Limited vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Limited control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Uses strings of simple sentences and phrases

1: POOR performance in Presentational Writing

- Almost no treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Demonstrates poor comprehension of the sources' viewpoints; includes frequent and significant inaccuracies
- Mostly repeats statements from sources or may not refer to any sources
- Minimally suggests the student's own viewpoint on the topic; argument is undeveloped or incoherent
- Little or no organization; absence of transitional elements and cohesive devices
- Barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility
- Very few vocabulary resources
- Little or no control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Very simple sentences or fragments

0: UNACCEPTABLE performance in Presentational Writing

- Mere restatement of language from the prompt
- Clearly does not respond to the prompt; completely irrelevant to the topic
- "I don't know," "I don't understand" or equivalent in any language
- Not in the language of the exam

- (hyphen): BLANK (no response)

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Interpersonal Speaking: Conversation

5: STRONG performance in Interpersonal Speaking

- Maintains the exchange with a series of responses that is clearly appropriate within the context of the task
- Provides required information (e.g., responses to questions, statement and support of opinion) with frequent elaboration
- Fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression; occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax and usage, with few errors
- Mostly consistent use of register appropriate for the conversation
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response comprehensible; errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) improves comprehensibility

4: GOOD performance in Interpersonal Speaking

- Maintains the exchange with a series of responses that is generally appropriate within the context of the task
- Provides required information (e.g., responses to questions, statement and support of opinion) with some elaboration
- Fully understandable, with some errors which do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and generally appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- General control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Generally consistent use of register appropriate for the conversation, except for occasional shifts
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response mostly comprehensible; errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) usually improves comprehensibility

3: FAIR performance in Interpersonal Speaking

- Maintains the exchange with a series of responses that is somewhat appropriate within the context of the task
- Provides required information (e.g., responses to questions, statement and support of opinion)
- Generally understandable, with errors that may impede comprehensibility
- Appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Some control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Use of register may be inappropriate for the conversation with several shifts
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response generally comprehensible; errors occasionally impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) sometimes improves comprehensibility

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2: WEAK performance in Interpersonal Speaking

- Partially maintains the exchange with a series of responses that is minimally appropriate within the context of the task
- Provides some required information (e.g., responses to questions, statement and support of opinion)
- Partially understandable, with errors that force interpretation and cause confusion for the listener
- Limited vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Limited control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Use of register is generally inappropriate for the conversation
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response difficult to comprehend at times; errors impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) usually does not improve comprehensibility

1: POOR performance in Interpersonal Speaking

- Unsuccessfully attempts to maintain the exchange by providing a series of responses that is inappropriate within the context of the task
- Provides little required information (e.g., responses to questions, statement and support of opinion)
- Barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility
- Very few vocabulary resources
- Little or no control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Minimal or no attention to register
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response difficult to comprehend; errors impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) does not improve comprehensibility

0: UNACCEPTABLE performance in Interpersonal Speaking

- Mere restatement of language from the prompts
- Clearly does not respond to the prompts
- “I don’t know,” “I don’t understand” or equivalent in any language
- Not in the language of the exam

- (hyphen): BLANK (no response although recording equipment is functioning)

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Presentational Speaking: Cultural Comparison

Clarification Notes:

- The term “community” can refer to something as large as a continent or as small as a family unit.
- The phrase “target culture” can refer to any community large or small associated with the target language.

5: STRONG performance in Presentational Speaking

- Effective treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Clearly compares the student’s own community with the target culture, including supporting details and relevant examples
- Demonstrates understanding of the target culture, despite a few minor inaccuracies
- Organized presentation; effective use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression; occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax and usage, with few errors
- Mostly consistent use of register appropriate for the presentation
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response comprehensible; errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) improves comprehensibility

4: GOOD performance in Presentational Speaking

- Generally effective treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Compares the student’s own community with the target culture, including some supporting details and mostly relevant examples
- Demonstrates some understanding of the target culture, despite minor inaccuracies
- Organized presentation; some effective use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Fully understandable, with some errors which do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and generally appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- General control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Generally consistent use of register appropriate for the presentation, except for occasional shifts
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response mostly comprehensible; errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) usually improves comprehensibility

3: FAIR performance in Presentational Speaking

- Suitable treatment of topic within the context of the task
- Compares the student’s own community with the target culture, including a few supporting details and examples
- Demonstrates a basic understanding of the target culture, despite inaccuracies
- Some organization; limited use of transitional elements or cohesive devices
- Generally understandable, with errors that may impede comprehensibility
- Appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Some control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Use of register may be inappropriate for the presentation with several shifts
- Pronunciation, intonation and pacing make the response generally comprehensible; errors occasionally impede comprehensibility
- Clarification or self-correction (if present) sometimes improves comprehensibility