

First Term Exam

Part one: Reading (15pts)

Read the text then do the following activities:

Consumer safety officials in the USA have warned Americans against using toothpaste made in China because it may be poisonous. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) declared that Chinese toothpaste may contain a toxic chemical commonly used in antifreeze – a substance that protects car engines from freezing in cold weather. The FDA said that while there have so far been no reports of toothpaste poisoning in the US, contamination has been reported in Mexico and Panama. It has also found traces of the chemical, diethylene glycol (DEG), in a shipment at the US border with Mexico and at retail stores in Florida and Puerto Rico. The agency said it did not want to alarm the public, but feels it needs to err on the side of caution and that it was better to be safe than sorry.

DEG is actually found in other foods. It is used in low-cost sweeteners and as a thickening agent in cooking. The FDA's concerns are that it should not be included in the ingredients of toothpaste. Officials say the chemical can be dangerous to children and to those with kidney or liver disease. The FDA's Deborah Autor expressed her fears over the substance, saying: "Our concern today is potentially about all toothpaste that comes in from China." She added: "Our estimate is that China makes up about US\$3.3 million of the US\$2 billion US toothpaste market." The FDA reported that DEG has been improperly added to a variety of other Chinese products, including sedatives and cough syrups. In Panama, last September, over 40 people died after taking a cough mixture containing DEG.

<http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com>

A/ comprehension

1. Choose the right answer. The text is:

a- a website article b- an extract from a book c- a letter

2. Say whether the following statements are true or false

- Chinese officials warned from American toothpaste.
- There were reports of toothpaste poisoning in Mexico and Panama.
- diethylene glycol is found in other foods.
- DEG is a chemical used in some Chinese medicine.

3. Answer the following questions according to the text

- Why the Chinese toothpaste is considered dangerous?
- How much profit does the China make in the American toothpaste market?
- How many Panamanians were victims of diethylene glycol?

4. What or who do the underlined words refer to?

- the agency
- it

B/ Text Exploration

- Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to:
 - Announced (§1)
 - goods (§2)
- Complete the following chart as shown in the example:

verb	noun	adjective
To involve	involvement	involved
	purchasing	
to consider		
to lose		

- Rewrite sentence 'B' so that it means the same as sentence 'A'.

A: The authorities should have taken care of homeless children.

B: It's high time.....

A: Children don't have a special legal protection organization.

B: They wish.....

A- I regret having accepted the bribe.

B- I wish

- Reorder the following statements to get a coherent paragraph.

a- the right to play and the right to enjoy their childhood.

b- Eradicating it means development and better opportunities for everyone.

c- Because all children have the right to a good education,

d- Child labour is affecting the children's mental and social growth.

Part 2: Written Expression (05 points)

Choose One of the following topics:

Topic 1:

In some countries like China and India, many kids have to work to help their parents. Using the following notes and other of your own, Write a composition of about 120-150 words on the causes of this problem.

- Poverty
- Poor families /orphan children / jobless parents.
- Failure at school.
- Illiteracy / working at an early age.

Topic two: Do you think that Algerian consumers are in general mindful about food safety? Why or Why not? Write a paragraph expressing your opinion with examples.