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SESSION 2019

**UE 12 - ANGLAIS APPLIQUÉ
AUX AFFAIRES**

Durée de l'épreuve : 3 heures – Coefficient : 1

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Aucun document ni aucun matériel n'est autorisé. En conséquence, tout usage d'une calculatrice est **INTERDIT** et constituerait une fraude.

Document remis au candidat : **le sujet comporte 7 pages numérotées de 1/7 à 7/7.**

Il vous est demandé de vérifier que le sujet est complet dès sa mise à votre disposition.

Le sujet comporte les 4 documents suivants

	Page
Page de garde	1
DOCUMENT 1 – un article publié par The Independent le 15 mai 2018	2
DOCUMENT 2 – un article publié sur le site bloomberg.com le 21 septembre 2018	3
DOCUMENT 3 – un article publié sur le site pbs.org le 7 mars 2018	4
DOCUMENT 4 – un document iconographique réalisé par Paresh Nath, publié sur CagleCartoons.com le 28 juillet 2012	5

AVERTISSEMENT

Si le texte du sujet, de ses questions ou de ses annexes, vous conduit à formuler une ou plusieurs hypothèses, il vous est demandé de la (ou les) formuler *explicitement* dans votre copie. Toutes les réponses devront être justifiées.

Il vous est demandé d'apporter un soin particulier à la présentation de votre copie et à la qualité rédactionnelle. Il sera tenu compte de ces éléments dans l'évaluation de votre travail.

SUJET

DOCUMENT 1 - Chinese investment in Africa could create national economies 'entirely dependent on China', say experts

Around \$86bn (£64bn) in loans were issued by China between 2000 and 2014 to finance over 3,000 infrastructure projects in Africa. But as leaders gather in Beijing for China's Belt and Road Summit this week, under the banner of President Xi Jinping's flagship policy, experts have warned that this level of investment may not be as rosy as it appears.

Zuneid Yousuf, from MBI Group, said: "The 10,000 state owned firms operating in China today arrive off the back of these mammoth investments, and there's no doubting their significant positive impact in many areas. Infrastructure projects create jobs, provide an opportunity for skills development and the transfer of new technologies. However, these firms come under the guise of partnership, but this rhetoric, combined with genuine short term benefits masks longer term problems."

One of the main issues around the Chinese approach is the dangerously high levels of debt that it brings, which could prove unsustainable for growing economies. There is also a risk that the continent becomes overly dependent on one country, which could allow it to hold an uncomfortably high level of influence.

Mr Yousuf said: "China is seeking to present itself as the new face of globalisation (...) "The problem with this is that the current model of their 'globalisation' doesn't so much encourage increased interaction between nations on a worldwide scale, as increased interaction with China on a worldwide scale. The reality in Africa is a model of globalisation that works only in China's interests. A far more effective model, one which would not lose the short-term benefits outlined above whilst simultaneously avoiding the pitfalls of unsustainable debt, would be to focus investment on partnerships with local businesses. This way there would be no need for vast government loans, and the job creation, skills development, and technology transfer would be ingrained at a local level and grow organically."

The Independent, May 15, 2018

DOCUMENT 2 - The Future Is in Africa, and China Knows It

Fast population growth offers some great investment opportunities, but the West is missing out.

During the past decade, China has been investing a lot of money in sub-Saharan Africa. Some Western observers worry that this represents a new form of colonialism. Given the continent's history with European conquerors and rich countries trying to cheaply exploit its natural resources, that suspicion is understandable. But (...) the new African investment bears little resemblance to the colonialism of old.

Colonialism, and the pseudo-colonial exploitation that sometimes followed independence, was mostly about extracting natural resources (and sometimes slave labor). Although securing access to natural resources is surely one of China's goals, its investments in Africa go beyond extractive industries. The sectors receiving the most Chinese money have been business services, wholesale and retail, import and export, construction, transportation, storage and postal services, with mineral products coming in fifth. In Ethiopia, China is pouring money into garment* manufacturing — the traditional first step on the road to industrialization.

Receiving foreign investment isn't the only way that a country can industrialize. But as China itself has shown in dramatic fashion during the past few decades, attracting foreign capital can be a key part of an effective growth strategy. When a company from China — or the U.S., Japan, France or elsewhere — employs Africans to make clothes, program software or build houses, African workers immediately share the benefits. This also provides income to local African entrepreneurs, who create new businesses to sell things to the foreign companies and their employees.

And if countries are smart about appropriating foreign technology, it can lead to long-term productivity increases as well. As Africans learn techniques, ideas and tricks from foreign companies (and invent new ones themselves), they will gain the leverage to capture an ever-bigger slice of the value that foreign investments create

— and as their productivity improves, that value will grow in size. (...)

Instead of standing on the sidelines and wringing their hands over China's investments, Westerners and people in other rich countries should be looking to copy or surpass China's efforts to tap the final frontier of emerging markets.

The biggest reason Africa will be important is population. Look up any map of total fertility rates, and you can easily see that with a few scattered exceptions, sub-Saharan Africa is the only place where people still have large families. Though family sizes will decrease as the continent becomes richer — this is already occurring — Africa is still expected to experience much more population growth than anywhere else.

Bloomberg.com, Sept 21, 2018

*garment : piece of clothing

DOCUMENT 3 - China's growing activity in Africa raises some policy questions

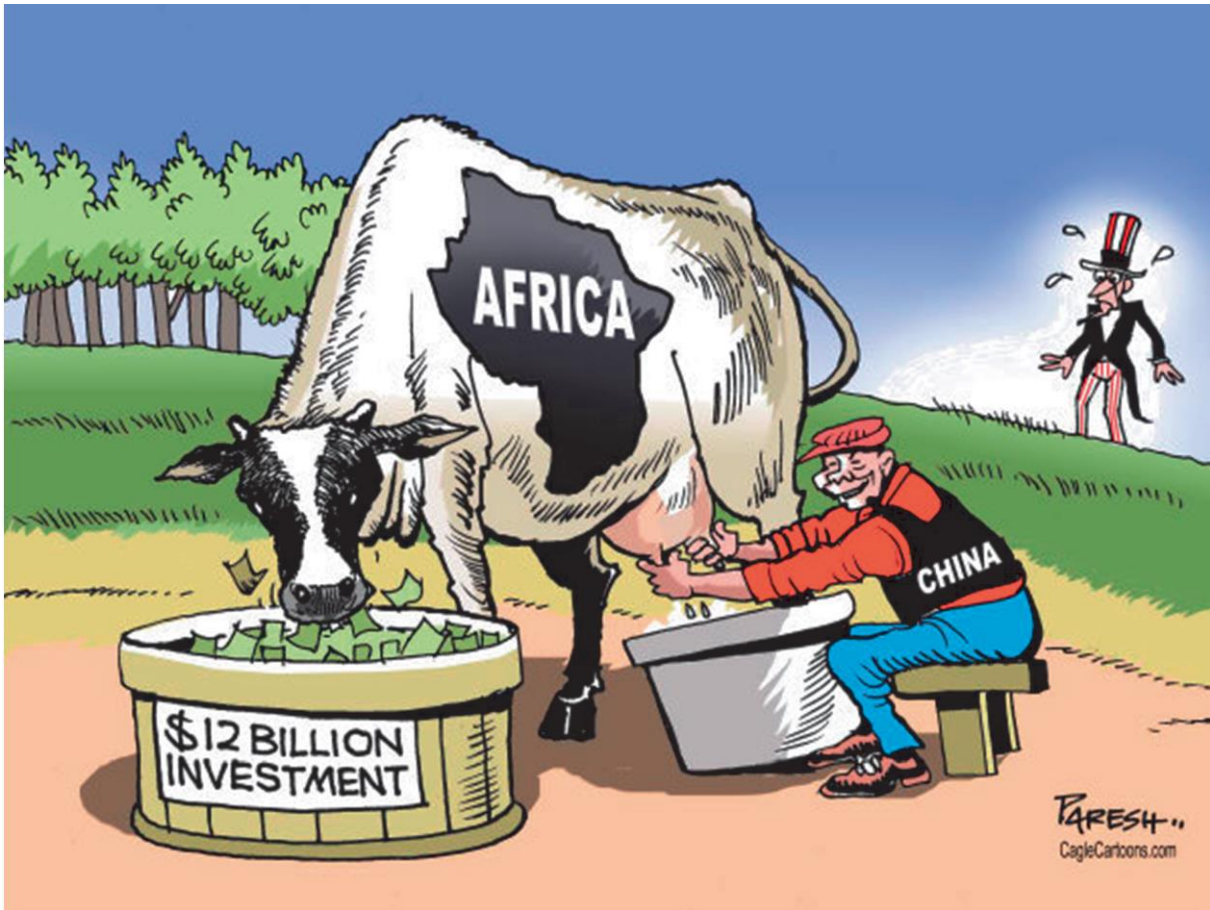
On average, 63 percent of Africans view China's economic and political influence as somewhat or very positive, according to a 2016 poll conducted in thirty-six countries by Afrobarometer, a Pan-African research network. Many African leaders have lauded the benefits of Chinese investment to support growth in their countries. "China, which has fought its own battles to modernise, has a much greater sense of the personal urgency of development in Africa than many western nations," wrote former Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade in a 2008 op-ed.

Still, China's presence in Africa has not been without controversy. Some countries have pushed back against China's development activities. Grievances range from poor compliance with safety and environmental standards to unfair business practices and violations of local laws.

The impression that China has exploited resources without building up local economies has triggered fierce criticism from some leaders. In 2011, Michael Sata won Zambia's presidency in part by tapping into anti-Chinese sentiment after Chinese managers shot protesters at a large coal mine in southern Zambia. In 2013, Sanusi Lamido Sanusi, then-governor of Nigeria's Central Bank, wrote "we must see China for what it is: a competitor." He added: "Africa must recognise that China—like the U.S., Russia, Britain, Brazil and the rest—is in Africa not for African interests but its own."

Eleanor Albert, Council on Foreign Relations, for *PBS News Hour*, March 7, 2018

DOCUMENT 4



Paresh Nath, CagleCartoons.com, 28/07/12

Travail à faire par le candidat**I- COMPREHENSION (10 points)**

En vous appuyant sur les quatre documents fournis, vous rédigerez **en français** une note de synthèse qui rendra compte **de la problématique générale du dossier**.

250 mots (+/- 10 %). Vous indiquerez le nombre de mots utilisés.

II- EXPRESSION EN ANGLAIS (10 points)

Les 2 exercices doivent être réalisés.

1. Comment on document 4

150 words (+/- 10 %). Vous indiquerez le nombre de mots utilisés.

2. Write a letter

Vous êtes membre d'une ONG en Ethiopie et avez reçu des plaintes de la part des employés d'une fabrique de textile à Addis Abeba.

Vous écrivez **une lettre** à l'*International Labour Organisation* (Adresse : Africa Hall, 6th Floor, Menelik II Avenue, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, P.O. Box 2788) pour dénoncer le non-respect du droit du travail et des normes de sécurité de la part des responsables chinois de l'entreprise. Vous citez notamment les heures supplémentaires imposées, l'absence de pauses accordées dans la journée, des cas de maltraitance des travailleurs, etc. Vous leur demandez d'intervenir.

Présentation et formules d'usage.

150 mots (+/- 10 %) dans le corps de la lettre. Vous indiquerez le nombre de mots utilisés.

Correction

Remarque préalable.

Le corrigé proposé par Comptalia est souvent plus détaillé que ce que l'on est en droit d'attendre d'un candidat dans le temps imparti pour chaque épreuve.

A titre pédagogique le corrigé peut donc comporter des rappels de cours par exemple, non exigés dans le traitement du sujet.

I- COMPREHENSION (10 points)

Quels intérêts sert la Chine en investissant massivement sur le continent africain ? (Docs1, 2, 3,4)

Ces investissements sont effectués dans plusieurs domaines allant des services, à la fabrication, à l'exploitation des minéraux.

La plupart des chefs d'états en Afrique accueillent favorablement ces investissements qui favorisent la croissance des pays.

En effet les investissements servent au développement des infrastructures, à la création d'emplois à renforcer les compétences et à accroître les transferts de technologie.

Ils peuvent déclencher un cercle vertueux. En s'appuyant sur de nouvelles technologies les entreprises locales pourraient se développer attirant ainsi plus d'investissements et créant des emplois à leur tour.

Cependant, d'autres chefs d'états sont plus réticents Ils estiment que la Chine profite de l'exploitation des matières premières sans réellement apporter des bienfaits à long terme. Ils redoutent que leur pays devienne dépendant entraînant un lourd endettement. (Docs 1, 2, 3)

De plus, les entreprises chinoises utiliseraient des pratiques déloyales, ne se conformeraient pas aux normes environnementales et ne respecteraient pas les droits des travailleurs

Il semblerait donc que ces investissements servent surtout les intérêts des entreprises d'état chinoises qui ont ainsi un accès aux matières premières, à une base de travailleurs et de consommateurs en forte expansion.

Pour une collaboration plus équitable, il faudrait créer des partenariats avec des entreprises locales. (Docs 1 et 3).

Les pays occidentaux et surtout les USA devraient saisir l'opportunité que représente l'Afrique. (Docs 2 et 4)

C'est sur ce terrain que la guerre économique entre la Chine et les USA pourrait désormais se dérouler.

(258 mots)

II- EXPRESSION EN ANGLAIS (10 points)**1. Comment on document 4**

China has been taking advantage of the globalization process by massively investing in the African continent.

Chinese state-run companies have invested 12 billion dollars in sectors such as construction, services, transportation, mineral products and so on. As suggested by the Chinese man milking the cow, Chinese companies have been reaping huge profits.

Higher wages in China, together with more demanding workers have prompted companies to invest in countries that have not yet been industrialized, just as Western companies had one before in Japan then in China.

What is striking is that the US, epitomized by Uncle Sam, seems to be annoyed at not having seized the opportunity to get an economic foothold in Africa while China is taking a stronghold and is increasingly wielding economic and political power. Knowing that the African continent is the last bastion, that may have been a strategic mistake in the trade war with China.

(151 words)

2. Write a letter

Ethiopia Ngo

June1 2019

International Labor Organization

Africa Hall

6th Floor, Menelik Avenue, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

P.O. Box 2788

Subject: Non-compliance with safety and labor laws

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

We have received complaints about work conditions from employees working in a Chinese-run textile factory located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

They have drawn our attention to the fact that ILO standards are not complied with. Indeed, the basic rights such as a 48-hour working week are not granted. They are made to work overtime against their will and no breaks are allowed during the day. They are not payed a decent living wage.

Furthermore, safety is overlooked thus putting workers at risk. Floors are overcrowded and no fire drills are carried out. Worse, workers have been reported to be mistreated.

There have also been complaints about the non-respect of environmental standards. Waste disposal is not carried out properly and sewage seems to be running in the nearby stream.

Overall, workers are under strain which may lead to accidents

We hope you will look into the matter and urge the Chinese managers to comply with ILO standards.

Yours faithfully,

In charge of working conditions in Ethiopia.

(160 words)