

BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPÉRIEUR**ÉPREUVE : ANGLAIS****GROUPE 16****Durée : 2 heures**

Spécialités	Coefficient
Analyses Biologiques	1
Biochimiste	2
Biotechnologie	1
Esthétique Cosmétique	1,5
Hygiène Propreté Environnement	2
Industries Céréalières	2
Métiers de l'eau	2
Qualité dans les Industries Alimentaires et les Bio-industries	2

L'usage de la calculatrice est interdit.

L'usage d'un dictionnaire bilingue est autorisé.

Ce sujet comporte 3 pages (y compris celle-ci).

CONDITION CRITICAL

An exclusive look at a U.N. assessment of Earth's ecosystems shows they are strained to the limit.

For more than 40 years, Earth has been sending out distress signals. At first they were subtle, like the thin shells of bald-eagle eggs that cracked because they were laced with DDT. Then the signs were unmistakable, like the pall of smoke over the Amazon rain forest, where farmers and ranchers set fires to clear land. Finally, as the new millennium drew near, it was obvious that Earth's pain had become humanity's pain. The collapse of the North Atlantic cod fishery put 30,000 Canadians out of work and ruined the economies of 700 communities. Two years ago, deforestation worsened China's floods, which killed 3,600 people and left 14 million homeless. Population pressures and overcrowding raised the toll from last year's rains in Latin America, which killed more than 30,000 people and created armies of environmental refugees.

And how have we responded to four decades of ever louder distress signals? We've staged a procession of Earth Days, formed Green parties, passed environmental laws, forged a few international treaties and organized global gabfests and photo ops like the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. All the while, the decline of Earth's ecosystems has continued unabated.

What will it take for us to get serious about saving our environment? When will environmentalism move from being a philosophy promoted by a passionate minority to a way of life that governs mainstream behavior and policy? How can we understand that Earth is one big natural system and that torching tropical rain forests and destroying coral reefs will eventually threaten the well-being of towns and cities everywhere?

One crucial step is a true accounting of the state of the planet, a thorough assessment of the health of all Earth's major ecosystems, from oceans to forests. Only a comprehensive global survey can show how damage to one system is affecting other systems and can determine whether Earth as a whole is losing its ability to nurture the full diversity of life and the economies of nations.

That was the thinking behind the launching of the most ambitious study of global ecosystems ever undertaken: a Pilot Analysis of Global Ecosystems (PAGE). The findings of the \$4 million study will be published in the 2000-01 edition of the *World Resources Report* titled *People and Ecosystems: The Fraying Web of Life*. PAGE will also set the stage for a larger \$20 million Millennium Ecosystems Assessment, scheduled to begin next year. The goal is to answer the most important question of the century: What is happening to Earth's capacity to support nature and civilization?

Adapted from Eugene LINDEN, *TIME*, April-May 2000

- (ℓ.5) cod: morue
 (ℓ.12) gabfest: useless talking
 (ℓ.12) op: operation

QUESTIONS

I. Compréhension (10 points)

1. Proposez un compte-rendu, en français, du texte et mettez en évidence les idées essentielles.
(environ 150 mots)
2. Traduisez, en français, le texte de la ligne 14: “ What will it take for us ...” à la ligne 18 :
“...towns and cities everywhere ?”

II. Expression en anglais (10 points)

Answer the following questions in English.

1. Say in your own words why the journalist writes that we are not “serious about saving our environment.”
(100 mots, + ou – 10 %)
2. Give your opinion on the PAGE project and say what you personally do to help save the planet.
(100 mots, + ou – 10 %)