

BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPERIEUR

Groupement 15

session 2004

ANGLAIS

Durée : 2 h

- SUJET -

Dès remise du sujet, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.

Spécialités :

Agencement de l'environnement
architectural
Aménagement - finition
Bâtiment
Charpente - couverture
Constructions métalliques
Enveloppe du bâtiment
Études et économie de la construction
Géomètre topographe
Systèmes constructifs bois et habitat
Travaux publics

L'usage du dictionnaire bilingue est autorisé.

PREFAB LIVING

A new generation of architects has given prefabricated homes a much needed refashion.

The rising costs of real estate have led architects to search for ways to create a fabulous yet affordable home. So they are looking to prefab, in order to overcome the industry's reputation for building flimsy shelters prone to flying away in thunderstorms.

5 The average Brit moves every seven years, and government officials estimate millions of new homes will be required in the next 25 years to accommodate new homeowners. That is why the British architectural firm Yorkon put up good-looking and affordable prefab units in East London. It's that attempt to apply style on the cheap that is getting attention: prefab is making *pied-à-terre* everywhere from Channel 4's "*Big Brother 3*" to the cheap, hip Target warehouses in the United States.

10 Even Ikea, the champion of do-it-yourself furniture from Sweden, introduced Bo Klok (Swedish for "live smart"), intending to provide affordable homes for single moms.

In Japan, the government also promoted prefab housing imported from abroad. After the 1995 Kobe earthquake, tens of thousands of prefab houses were set up as emergency homes for victims. Those homes were taken apart and sent to Peru to be used as classrooms.

15 In the United States, prefab is also taking root among couples looking for bargain first homes. Richard and Kim Markham stumbled upon a new building block – the shipping container - after realizing custom-designed modern homes were too expensive. "We investigated traditional construction methods and realized the units would cost \$220,000 and up," says Markham. "Many people we know can't afford that." They hope to build their 2,000-square-foot homes for less than \$100,000 each by
20 stacking four of the 8-foot by 20-foot reinforced steel boxes. A precut metal and glass staircase structure will connect the four stories. "Shipping-container homes in a warehouse district", says Markham, "just makes sense."

It's downright prefabulous.

Adapted from *Newsweek*, September 15, 2003.

TRAVAIL DEMANDÉ

1°/ Expression en français (10 pts)

Rédigez un compte-rendu du texte en français et en 150 mots environ.

2°/ Expression en anglais (10 pts)

Répondez en anglais aux deux questions suivantes :

1. What are the advantages and drawbacks of prefabricated houses? (100 words),
5 pts.
2. Would you like to live in a prefabricated home? Please explain why. (100 words),
5 pts.