



SERVICES CULTURE ÉDITIONS
RESSOURCES POUR
L'ÉDUCATION NATIONALE

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BACCALAURÉAT PROFESSIONNEL

ÉPREUVE ÉCRITE DE LANGUE VIVANTE

ANGLAIS

**TOUTES SPÉCIALITÉS DU
SECTEUR TERTIAIRE**

DURÉE : DEUX HEURES

COEFFICIENT : 2

L'UTILISATION DU DICTIONNAIRE BILINGUE EST AUTORISÉE

Fewer Youths Jump Behind the Wheel at 16

For generations, driver's licenses have been tickets to freedom for America's 16-year-olds, prompting many to apply for their license on the day they turned 16. No longer. In the last decade, the proportion of 16-year-olds nationwide who hold driver's licenses has dropped from nearly half to less than one-third, according to statistics. 5 Reasons vary, including stricter state laws governing when teenagers can drive, higher insurance costs and a shift from school-run driver education to expensive private driving academies. Experts also add that parents are more and more willing to drive their children to activities. Teenagers also spend more time indoors, surfing the Web or watching TV.

10 Jaclyn Frederick, 17, of Detroit, is a year past the age when she could get a license. She said she planned to apply for one eventually, but sees no rush. "Oh, I guess I just haven't done it yet, you know? I get rides, so I'm not worried about it," said Jaclyn. Consequently, the national rate of licensed 16-year-olds dropped to 29.8 percent in 2006 from 43.8 percent in 1998, according to the Federal Highway 15 Administration. The way students learn has undergone a major change, too. Twenty-five years ago most teenagers took driver's education in their local schools. But the number of school systems offering the program has fallen from 90 percent in the 1980s to about 20 percent today. "High schools are out of the business because of the cost," said Henning Mortensen, owner of a driving school in Sacramento. Commercial 20 driving academies have replaced them. Whereas high schools offered driver's education as a regular class or for a modest fee during the summer, commercial driving academies charge higher rates.

Insurance costs are also rising. It now costs 80 percent to 100 percent more to add a 16-year-old to a family's auto policy. This is due to teenage drivers having the 25 highest crash rate. Car accidents account for one-third of all deaths of 16- to 18-year-olds, according to experts. New driving laws, also deter teenagers from getting their license: in some states, teenagers must spend time with a parent or drive under certain conditions. In Illinois, driving laws impose a curfew of 11 p.m. at the weekend (10 p.m. on weeknights) for drivers up to 17 years old. In Delaware, teenagers may 30 not drive between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Indeed, the fatal crash rate for 16-year-olds driving at night is twice as high as it is during the day, according to the National Transportation Safety Board.

Beyond the tighter regulations, some parents are just not encouraging lessons, said Naomi Drew, author of "Peaceful Parents, Peaceful Kids," which studied family 35 lifestyles. "The roads are more dangerous these days," she said. "Parents are worried for their children's safety."

The New York Times, February 25, 2008 (adapted)

Vocabulary

driving academies: auto-écoles
to get rides: se faire emmener en voiture
fee: somme d'argent
to deter: décourager
curfew: couvre-feu

A Répondez en français aux questions suivantes, en utilisant uniquement les informations contenues dans le texte. (9 points)

1. Quel changement a-t-on observé chez les jeunes Américains ces dernières années ? (1 pt)
2. Quelles sont les raisons de ce changement ? Citez-en au moins trois. (3 pts)
3. Qui se chargeait d'enseigner la conduite aux jeunes Américains auparavant ? (1 pt)
4. Quel était l'avantage de ce système ? (1 pt)
5. Donnez deux exemples de nouvelles lois en vigueur dans certains états en ce qui concerne la conduite des jeunes. (2 pts)
6. Pourquoi certains parents n'encouragent-ils pas leurs enfants à prendre des cours de conduite ? (1 pt)

B Traduction en français (3 points)

de la ligne 23 *It now costs...* à la ligne 26 *...according to experts.*

C Recopiez le passage suivant en le complétant à l'aide d'éléments choisis ci-dessous: (4 points)

have to / can't / must / can / don't have to / might

The situation is different in our country. You drive at the age of sixteen but you drive alone, you be in the company of an adult. Anyway, you will wait until you are eighteen to take the driving test.

D Expression en anglais (4 points)

Traitez en un minimum de dix lignes le sujet suivant :

Do you think that having a driver's license is a necessity or could you do without it?