



National  
Qualifications  
SPECIMEN ONLY

**S830/76/11**

**French  
Reading**

Date — Not applicable

Duration — 2 hours

**Total marks — 30**

Attempt ALL questions.

Write your answers clearly, in **English**, in the Reading answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

You may use a French dictionary.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

There is a separate question and answer booklet for Directed Writing. You must complete your answer for Directed Writing in the question and answer booklet for Directed Writing.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your Reading answer booklet and your Directed Writing question and answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



\* S 8 3 0 7 6 1 1 \*

**Total marks — 30**  
**Attempt ALL questions**

Read the whole article carefully and then answer, in **English**, ALL the questions that follow.  
In this article, the writer discusses holidays.

**Les vacances — nécessité ou luxe?**

Certains disent que partir en vacances, soit à l'étranger, soit dans son propre pays, est une vraie nécessité. D'autres pensent que c'est un luxe qu'on ne peut pas se permettre de nos jours.

5 Malgré l'augmentation du coût de la vie, pas question pour les Français d'y renoncer parce qu'ils adorent partir en vacances. Chaque été un grand nombre se met en route pour quitter les villes et s'échapper de la vie quotidienne. Ils partent non seulement pendant les grandes vacances, mais aussi en hiver, et même pour des séjours de courte durée.

**Pourquoi partir en vacances?**

10 Selon le psychologue, Martin Lescaux, on a besoin de partir en vacances pour toutes sortes de raisons. Tout d'abord, il est nécessaire de s'éloigner du bureau. Tant de gens sont obligés de faire des heures supplémentaires, et par conséquent ils rentrent épuisés à la maison où ils doivent encore s'occuper des enfants. Puis, on recommence la même routine le lendemain.

Alors, partir en vacances est une bonne occasion de se reposer, d'oublier la routine et de faire ce qu'on veut. Si on reste à la maison, on risque de finir par faire les tâches ménagères.

**15 Quelles sortes de vacances attirent les Français depuis la crise économique?**

Pour beaucoup de Français, les projets de vacances ont beaucoup changé. Mais, ils n'ont pas besoin d'aller très loin, et chose étonnante: la visite d'usines, de centrales nucléaires et de fromageries devient de plus en plus populaire. Il y a toujours quelque chose de nouveau à découvrir, tout près de chez soi.

20 Si on a la chance d'habiter pas trop loin des montagnes, il est toujours possible de passer une journée au ski. Mais, Jérôme Bertillon, propriétaire d'un hôtel de montagne, nous explique:

25 << Les vacances à la montagne ce n'est pas que le ski. Moi, j'ai des clients qui pratiquent une variété d'activités sportives pendant la journée, mais le soir ce qui les attirent c'est de se retrouver entre amis ou en famille, auprès de la cheminée à chanter ou à discuter avec une boisson chaude à la main.

En plus, il y a d'autres raisons de visiter la montagne. N'oubliez pas que respirer l'air frais de la montagne vous fera beaucoup de bien, que vous choisissiez des activités physiques ou non! Après tout, qui ne veut pas se réveiller le matin avec une vue magnifique sur les montagnes? >>

30 Par contre, l'été, plus de 35 millions de Français partent en vacances en même temps sur les côtes de la Méditerranée ou de l'Atlantique. Pour beaucoup de vacanciers, revenir de vacances bronzés est un signe de vacances réussies. Les seuls inconvénients sont qu'on peut passer des heures bloqué en voiture à cause des bouchons sur les autoroutes, et il va sans dire qu'on est tellement serré à la plage qu'il est souvent difficile de trouver un endroit pour  
35 s'allonger sur le sable.

## Le tourisme vert

Cependant, l'année dernière, beaucoup de Français ont choisi de passer leurs vacances à la campagne qui a tant de choses à offrir. Par exemple, on peut passer des journées au bord d'une rivière à pêcher ou même faire une promenade en vélo en forêt tout en découvrant l'histoire de la région.

40

En fait, le «tourisme vert» est très à la mode en ce moment, et beaucoup de monde choisit de louer des cabanes en pleine forêt ou bien de dormir dans les arbres parce que les prix sont beaucoup plus raisonnables par rapport aux prix qu'on paie dans un hôtel de luxe.

45 Le psychologue, Martin Lescaux, dit, « Dans un monde où l'on oublie l'impact de l'homme sur l'environnement, cela donne l'occasion de se trouver plus près de la nature où il faut penser aux animaux et à la beauté qui nous entourent.»

En conclusion, une chose est certaine — en dépit de la crise économique les Français n'ont aucune intention de renoncer aux vacances! En tout cas, pas pour l'instant!

MARKS

### Questions

Re-read lines 4–7.

1. The opening of the article states that the increase in the cost of living has not had an effect on the attitude of French people towards holidays.

What evidence is there of this? State any **two** examples.

2

Re-read lines 9–14.

2. According to the psychologist, Martin Lescaux:

(a) Why do people need to go on holiday? State any **three** reasons.

3

(b) Why is it not a good idea to stay at home?

1

Re-read lines 15–19.

3. The economic crisis has had an impact on holiday choices.

(a) In what way have the holiday plans of many French people changed?

1

(b) What is surprising about this change?

1

[Turn over

## Questions (continued)

Re-read lines 20–29.

4. The writer discusses ski holidays.
- (a) According to Jérôme Bertillon, what are the main attractions for holidaymakers in the mountains? Give any **two** details. 2
- (b) What other reasons does he give for the popularity of a mountain holiday? 2

Re-read lines 30–35.

5. Many French people choose to spend their summer holidays on the coast.
- (a) What do some people see as a sign of a successful holiday? 1
- (b) What are the main disadvantages of this type of holiday? 2

Re-read lines 41–46.

6. The article discusses ‘eco tourism’.
- What attracts people to this type of holiday? State any **three** reasons. 3

Now consider the article as a whole.

7. Does the author give the impression that holidays are a necessity or a luxury? Give details from the text to justify your answer. 2
8. Translate into English:  
*Cependant, . . . de la région.* (lines 37–40) 10

[END OF SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER]



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Reading**

## Marking Instructions

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These marking instructions have been provided to show how SQA would mark this specimen question paper.

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## General marking principles for Higher French Reading

*Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.*

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Award a mark for each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions and the answers for each question must come from the item.
- (d) Marks are available as follows:
  - (i) The first set of questions (worth 18 marks in total) asks candidates to provide answers based on comprehension of information from the text. There are generally 1-3 marks available for each question.
  - (ii) The penultimate question is the overall purpose question, and candidates must identify the overall purpose of the text and draw meaning from their overall understanding of the text. There is a maximum of 2 marks available for reference to the text and detailed comment. Pegged mark descriptors (2/1/0) and associated commentary are available, along with further guidance, in the detailed marking instructions.
  - (iii) The last question is the translation. For this question, candidates must translate the underlined section of the text. The section for translation is divided into five sense units. For each sense unit, award 2, 1 or 0 marks: 2 marks for a full translation, 1 for partial translation, and 0 for an unsuccessful attempt.
- (e) Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of the candidate's answers. Award marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.

## Marking instructions for each question

Question		Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A lot of people are leaving towns in summer</li> <li>A lot of people go to escape daily life</li> <li>Go away not just in summer, but also in winter</li> <li>People are still taking short breaks</li> </ul> <p><b>Any 2 from 4</b></p>	2	Use your professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding, to award marks to candidates' responses.  Ignore extraneous material that does not contradict the answer.
2.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To escape from work</li> <li>Many people have to work extra hours and are exhausted</li> <li>They still have to look after children when they go home</li> </ul>	3	
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You risk ending up doing household tasks</li> </ul>	1	
3.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They stay closer to home</li> </ul>	1	
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is always something to discover close by</li> <li>They can visit factories, nuclear power stations or cheese makers</li> </ul> <p><b>Any 1 from 2</b></p>	1	
4.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People can do a variety of sports during the day</li> <li>They have the opportunity to get together in the evening with friends and family OR get together in the evening to chat/sing/have a drink</li> </ul>	2	
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People get the benefit of fresh air whether they do physical activity or not</li> <li>Wake up to lovely views</li> </ul>	2	

Question		Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
5.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They return from holiday with a tan</li> </ul>	1	
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They spend hours stuck in the car because of traffic jams</li> <li>• There are so many people on the beach it is difficult to find space to lie down on the sand</li> </ul>	2	
6.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's less expensive</li> <li>• Opportunity to be closer to nature</li> <li>• Think about animals/beauty of surroundings</li> </ul>	3	



Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
7.	<p>Outline of possible responses:</p> <p>The writer gives the impression that holidays are a necessity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writer states French people have no intention of giving up holidays (despite rise in cost of living)</li> <li>• Writer states large numbers of French people continue to go on summer and winter holidays and short breaks</li> <li>• Writer states it is necessary to get away from office to rest/escape daily routine/do what you like</li> <li>• Economic crisis has meant people staying closer to home, but not giving up holidays entirely</li> <li>• Examples such as in the mountains it is a chance to be with family: mountain air will do you good - implies necessary to get away; getting a tan implies relaxation is necessary</li> <li>• Choosing to stay in cabins rather than hotels implies people not prepared to give up holidays, but will find cheaper ways of going away; types of activities (for example walking/fishing) imply don't need to spend much money to go away</li> </ul>	2	<p>Award <b>2 marks</b> where the candidate provides a clear answer, with justification that shows an accurate reading of the text.</p> <p>Award <b>1 mark</b> where the candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of some justification.</p> <p>Award <b>0 marks</b> where the candidate simply provides information to be found in the text by simply re-stating answers to previous questions.</p>

Question		Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
8.	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• However, last year, a lot of French people chose</li> </ul>	2	<p>The translation into English is allocated 10 marks. The text for translation is divided into a number of sense units. Each sense unit is worth 2 marks. Award marks according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English.</p> <p>Award a mark for each sense unit, as follows:</p> <p><b>2 marks - good</b> The candidate understands and conveys essential information and relevant details, clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English.</p> <p><b>1 mark - satisfactory</b> The candidate understands and conveys essential information clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or inaccurate manner. They convey the key message in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English.</p> <p><b>0 marks - unsatisfactory</b> The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential idea.</p>
	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to spend their holidays in the country which has so much/so many things to offer.</li> </ul>	2	
	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For example, you can spend days on the banks of a river fishing</li> </ul>	2	
	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• or even go for a bike ride in the forest</li> </ul>	2	
	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• while finding out about the history of the area.</li> </ul>	2	

[END OF SPECIMEN MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]